THE NEW
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ISRO'S HEAVIEST LVM3 ROCKET PUTS 36 SATELLITES INTO ORBIT

The 43.5-metre tall rocket, carrying internet satellites of UK-based OneWeb group, lifted off from Sriharikota at 9 am

COMPLEX MANOEUVRES IN FINAL STAGE

The rocket deployed the first set of 16 satellites around 20 minutes after the lift-off with the rest deployed in later stages. As per NewSpace India Chairman and Managing Director D Radhakrishnan, the mission's highlight was that the LVM3 performed a series of complex manoeuvres during the cryogenic-powered final stage to place satellites into indended orbits | P7

ONEWEB READY TO DELIVER GLOBAL SERVICES

- This is the second dedicated mission of NewSpace India Ltd, the commercial arm of ISRO. OneWeb group's first batch of 36 satellites were launched by the Indian space agency in October last year
- The ones launched on Sunday were the final set of satellites OneWeb needs to deliver a broadband internet connection anywhere on Earth

616

NUMBER OF SATELLITES ONEWEB HAS ON THE ORBIT AFTER SUNDAY'S LAUNCH

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah with CM Basavaraj Bommai and former CM BS Yediyurappa during the unveiling of the statues of Basaveshwara and Kempegowda in front of Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

4% Muslim quota was unconstitutional: Shah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bidar/Bengaluru

DEFENDING the Karnataka government's decision to withdraw a 4 per cent reservation for Muslims in the Other Backward Class (OBC) category recently and distributing it among Lingayats and Vokkaligas, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said the Constitution has no provision to provide reservation to any particular religion.

Congress leaders termed it an attempt to create hatred among communities. Hitting out at them, Shah appreciated the Basavaraj Bommai government's decision to use that 4 per cent reservation to increase the quota for Lingayats and Vokkaligas by 2 per cent each.

In a major decision on Friday, the Karnataka cabinet scrapped the 4 per cent OBC quota for Muslims under 2B category and moved them to the Economically Weaker Section. The freed-up quota was used to increase the reservation for Vokkaligas from 4 per cent to 6 per cent and for Lingayats from 5 per cent to 7 per cent.

Shah, who was speaking after unveiling a statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at the Martyrs' Memorial at Gorta village in Bidar district, alleged that the previous Congress government had provided the 4 per cent quota to appease the minorities.

Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president DK Shivakumar wondered whether Lingayats and Vokkaligas had asked the government to take away the minority reservation to give it to them. "The existing 56 per cent cap on reservation should have been expanded to increase the reservation for the two communities. Lingayats had asked for a 15 per cent quota and Vokkaligas 12 per cent," he said.

He alleged that the BJP government threatened Vokkaliga community's religious head Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji and Panchamasali Lingayat seer Sri Jaya Mruthyunjaya Swamiji to accept the 2 per cent hike each in reservation. "They are not beggars to accept it as it has been robbed from another community. Why is the BJP government trying to sow hatred between communities by scrapping the Muslims OBC quota? Are minorities not our people," he asked. P4

'Rahul martyr's son, can't betray country'

PM hiding behind power, says Priyanka, addressing Sankalp Satyagraha

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

CONGRESS leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Sunday tore into the BJP for calling her brother Rahul Gandhi a 'traitor' and casting aspersions on the Nehru-Gandhi family.

Addressing a gathering at the 'Sankalp Satyagraha' outside Rajghat, she said BJP leaders have repeatedly insulted her family, whose members have sacrificed their lives for the country.

The Congress organised similar satyagrahas across the country on Sunday to protest Rahul's disqualification from Parliament. In Delhi, the party wanted to hold the protest at the Rajghat but Delhi police declined permission. Following this, the leaders decided to sit outside the memorial.

"You call my brother, a martyr's son, a traitor and your minister insulted my mother in Parliament. One of your chief ministers said Rahul Gandhi doesn't even know who his father is. Your PM asks why this family does not keep the surname of Nehru... you have insulted the entire family," she said, adding that leaders of the ruling dispensation get away with their words and deeds.

"You don't get a sentence of two years, you are not thrown out of Parliament, you are not barred from contesting elections for eight years," she said, adding the family has kept quiet till now but not any longer.

"My brother even hugged the PM and told him that he doesn't harbour any hatred towards him. How much will you insult one man," she asked.

Launching a broadside against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Priyanka said: "You can slap a case on me and put me in jail. But the truth is that the PM is a coward. He is hiding behind power."

Taking a dig at BJP leaders for portraying Rahul Gandhi as 'Pappu', Priyanka said the government is scared of him after lakhs of people joined his Bharat Jodo Yatra.

She added: "Our family members shed blood for this flag and the land. Those who think that they can threaten or put us in jail are wrong. We are not scared. We will continue to fight for the democratic values of the country," she said.

Meanwhile, as a show of protest against Rahul's disqualification, the Congress has asked its MPs to wear black dress in Parliament on Monday.

Priyanka Gandhi at the party's 'Sankalp Satyagraha' to protest Rahul Gandhi's disqualification as MP, outside Rajghat in New Delhi on Sunday | PARVEEN NEGI

It's a brazen display of sheer arrogance: BJP

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

THE BJP on Sunday lashed out at the Congress for its 'Satyagraha' against Rahul Gandhi's disqualification from Parliament following his conviction in a defamation case.

BJP national president J P Nadda said the Congress protest is aimed at supporting a convicted person. "The court asked Rahul Gandhi to apologise but he did not do it because of his arrogance," he said.

Speaking in similar vein, BJP national spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi termed it 'a brazen display of arrogance. "It is against the country's Constitution and the court's verdict against Rahul Gandhi to justify his remarks against the 'entire backward community' of the country," he said.

> **It is against the country's Constitution and the court's verdict against Rahul Gandhi to justify his remarks against the 'entire backward community' of the country**
>
> Sudhanshu Trivedi, BJP spokesperson

Dubbing the agitation as an insult to Mahatma Gandhi who organised Satyagrahas only for social causes, he said the Congress is doing it for political and personal causes of a convicted person. He alleged the Sankalp Satyagraha has nothing to do with fighting for truth, adding that Rahul was convicted by a court after due legal process and his disqualification as Lok Sabha MP came as a natural corollary.

Questioning the real purpose of the Satyagraha, the BJP leader said: "Is it to justify the way you insulted the entire backward community of the country, or against the court which sentenced you, or against the provision under which you have to be disqualified?"

Trivedi alleged that some Congress leaders, who were allegedly involved in the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, participated in the party's agitation. "They still want one set of laws for common people and another for their family," he charged.

EXPRESS READ

Malayalam actor Innocent dies

KOCHI : Malayalam actor and former Kerala MP, Innocent, who was batlling cancer for the past few years, passed away at a private hospital in Kochi on Sunday | P7

Air India and Nepal jets almost collide

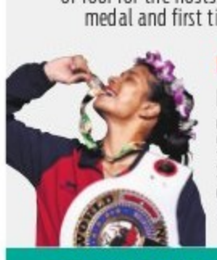
Kathmandu: A major tragedy was averted on Friday when an Air India and a Nepal Airlines aircraft came close to collision mid-air but the warning systems alerted the pilots who prevented the disaster.

Superb Sunday

4 This was India's fourth gold at the world women's boxing championships. The last time India had won four gold medals was in 2006 (New Delhi)

LOVELY BORGOHAIN

Tokyo Olympic bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain also had a gruelling fight. She was tested to the extreme by Australia's Caitlyn Parker in the 75kg final. But her hand was raised after an absorbing final to make it four out of four for the hosts. This is her third medal and first title in the worlds



NIKHAT STARS

Nikhat Zareen dug deep in the final to claim her second world title. Fighting in 50kg for the first time in the the event, she got the better of Nguyen Thi Tam of Vietnam 5-0. She had won the 2022 edition in 52kg

MUMBAI HIGH

Mumbai Indians beat Delhi Capitals by seven wickets to lift the first Women's Premier League

Sciver-Brunt again

After restricting Delhi Capitals to 131/9 in the final, Mumbai overhauled the target with three balls to spare. Nat Sciver-Brunt led the charge with an unbeaten 60, while MI skipper supported her with a well-made 37. MI's Issy Wong got two wickets off three balls in her first over to put brakes on Delhi Capitals | P13

SATWIK-CHIRAG'S SWISS VICTORY

Men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty beat China's Ren Xiang Yu and Tan Qiang in the final of the Swiss Open Super 300 badminton tournament. The 2022 World Championship bronze medallist beat the world No. 21 pair 21-19, 24-22

Bajrang Dal men disrupt Holi party in M'luru

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mangaluru

IN a case of 'moral policing', few pro-Hindutva outfit members disrupted a Holi party and tore posters at Maroli in Mangaluru on Sunday. Six members of Bajrang Dal have been arrested.

Bajrang Dal members alleged that young girls and boys were celebrating Holi with obscene dance and were splashing colours on each other at a Holi DJ party named 'Rang De Barse' on an open ground.

The accused forcibly entered the venue and got into a verbal spat with the organisers. They allegedly tried to manhandle some of the organisers, though the latter had taken prior permission to organise the event. The local police were informed and they immediately took six Bajrang Dal members into custody.

Mangaluru City Police Commissioner Kuldeep Kumar R Jain said the six people stormed into the venue at Surya Foods at Kankanady police station limits and disrupted the event. "Few banners put up at the venue were torn by the accused. We have taken up a non-cognisable case against the accused," he said. The commissioner gave the names of the accused persons as Ganesh Attavar, Jai Prashanth, Balachandar, Akshay, Chirag and Mithin.

Bajrang Dal members disrupting a Holi party in Mangaluru on Sunday

Erectile dysfunction cases rising, experts blame pandemic distress

NAMRATA SINDWANI @Bengaluru

THE psychological and financial pressures faced by the people, especially men, during the Covid pandemic has affected their sexual and reproductive health too. Nephro-urologists said cases of erectile dysfunction and impotence among men have increased and so have invasive surgeries to treat the issues.

Medical experts have seen an upsurge in impotency among the 18-45 age group post-Covid. This is because of emotional distress, job loss, isolation and excessive consumption of steroids to treat Covid, besides habits like smoking and alcohol consumption, experts said.

Dr Mohan Keshavamurthy, Senior Director, Urology, and Chairman, Renal Sciences Speciality Council, Fortis Hospitals, said that before 2020 (pre-pandemic), around 30-40 cases of patients complaining of erectile dysfunction (ED) or male impotency (MI) were seen on a monthly basis. But now these cases have doubled. The number of procedures requiring surgeries too has doubled, he said.

Consultations with doctors through the Covid and post-Covid periods revealed that most ED cases were linked to men facing severe financial and psychological issues and resulting stress and anxieties during the pandemic.

CONTINUED ON: P5

ALMANAC TODAY

- **Monday:** 27/03/2023 • **Year:** Shobhakruta • **Ayana:** Uttharayana
- **Ritu:** Vasantha • **Masa:** Chaitra • **Paksha:** Shukla • **Tithi:** Shashti 7.23 pm
- **Nakshatra:** Rohini 5.24 pm • Moon in Mithuna Rashi • **Rahukaala:** 07:30 am to 09:00 am
- **Gulikakala:** 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • **Yamaganda:** 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER

MIN 21°C | MAX 33°C

FORECAST

Light rain. Increasing cloudiness

Sunrise	6.19 am
Sunset	6.31 pm
Moonrise	10.29 am
Moonset	11.49 pm

Commuters enjoy the inaugural Metro ride from KR Pura on Sunday; (Above) the decorated train | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

FIRST DAY, FIRST RIDE TURNS OUT TO BE A HIT

Metro officials welcome commuters with red roses and a smile

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

THE holiday mood, with smiles from the staffers and security personnel and a red rose handed over to every commuter by senior Metro officials created a carnival-like atmosphere.

At 7 am, the first train chugged off from the KR Pura end. Initially, passengers were few, but then the numbers increased when the train touched Whitefield Kadugodi.

Shankar Subramaniam was super-excited as he was the first customer to buy a token from for Hoodi station. Subramaniam, owner of a brewery start-up, told TNIE midway into his journey, "It has been wonderful so far, and the hospitality is really nice. The Hoodi station is in front of my apartment, so I can walk and take the Metro every day."

A seven-member family, comprising a tiny tot and three senior citizens, had occupied a row. Rajan Prakash had boarded the train at Nallurhalli along with wife Seema, their kids 10-year-old Akshit and one and a half year old Advit, his father and his in-laws. "I am extremely happy to be on Namma Metro on the first day of its operations," he said.

NS Viswanathan, CFO of Mfine, a healthcare app, said, "I have waited for three years to take a ride on this route. I am simply delighted."

A couple from Basavanagudi had come to KR Pura station to enjoy the experience on the first day. Sri Lakshmi, assistant professor, Adarsh Institute of Management & IT and her husband Murali Krishna, CEO of Accord Software & Systems, travelled in the Metro to Baiyappanahalli. "We then took a feeder bus to KR Pura. We will be boarding a train soon and are looking forward to our first trip," she said.

Another traveller who came a long distance was Ravi Shankar. "I came from JP Nagar. I was on the Metro when the first Metro stretch was launched (October 20, 2011) and wanted to do it again today," he said.

Director, Rolling Stock, Operations and Maintenance (O&M), NM Dhoke and Executive Director, O&M, AS Shankar, were travelling on trains from different ends to interact with the passengers and gather feedback.

THE RIDERSHIP ON THE EASTERN EXTENSION LINE GRADUALLY PICKED UP AND STOOD AT 25,226 RIDERS AT 9.30 PM. TRAINS WILL RUN UPTO 11 PM FROM BOTH ENDS

Whitefield may see pricey properties after Metro

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

THE connectivity boost that Metro network will provide in the choked Whitefield area by linking it with the heart of the city is likely to make real estate more expensive in the area and its surroundings, an industry expert said. Prices could shoot up as much as 10 per cent in the first three months of the launch.

Chairman of CREDAI Bengaluru, Suresh Hari told TNIE, "With the Metro line coming up, there will be an enormous impact. I can see a minimum of 10% jump in prices in the first three months of the launch of the Whitefield Kadugodi-KR Pura Line," he said. "There will be a definite uptick in real estate prices due to this," he added.

Sachin Vora, CFO, Assetz Property Group bills the Metro line "a game changer."

"Any infrastructure project like a Ring Road or a Metro line would transform an area completely. Commuters prefer Metro to any road project as timings are maintained accurately. In North Bengaluru for instance, it was a dead area earlier.

"The possibility of a Metro line to the airport via the place has converted it into a huge real estate market," he said.

In East Bengaluru, Vora felt the area has already cashed in on the proposed Metro. "A year earlier, it became clear that the Metro line would be operational which created a momentum. I have two projects in Whitefield, and one of them has already been sold 90%. We had already hiked our prices by 10%," Vora said.

A senior government official said that property values skyrocket in an area after a Metro line is operational.

RERA court orders builder to pay for flood damages

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

STERLING Ascentia apartment owners on the Outer Ring Road, whose cars were heavily damaged in flooding last September have finally got some respite. A RERA court has ordered the builder to pay compensation of Rs 1 lakh to each flat owner plus a sum of Rs 500 per month with retrospective effect until the promised amenities are in place.

Flooding hit towers 5 and 6 comprising 172 flats in this multi-storied complex in Bellandur. Irked by the alleged apathy of Sterling Urban Ventures Private Ltd, 28 flat owners filed three cases with Marathahalli police station.

Prannay Srivastava, a flat owner, told TNIE, "We also filed a case with the RERA court on October 21, 2022. We have got a verdict in our favour and are extremely relieved."

TNIE has a copy of the verdict by Adjudicating Officer IS Bidari. The order, dated March 17, states that the builder had admitted to opening the backgate of the towers, which was not a part of the sanctioned plan. Though the builder later restored the STP, the residents possibly suffered mental agony from the damages to other amenities, the order said.

"The respondent having obtained partial occupancy certificate for towers 5&6 has not provided clubhouse and some of the promised amenities which might have caused mental agony," the order said.

If the compensation is not paid, an additional 6 per cent per annum will be slapped. In addition, Rs 5,000 towards litigation expenses, a penalty of Rs 500 per month for non-provision of promised facilities and Rs 1,000 per month for non-provision of Club House should be paid, the order said. "The date of flat registration varies. It is two years in my case, it is less than that for some and it is even three years for others," Srivastava explained.

BRITISH VARSITIES

'Knowledge City idea good, but needs support, investment'

DONNA EVA @ Bengaluru

AFTER Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai announced that a Knowledge City will be set up outside Bengaluru to allow foreign universities to set up their campuses, the newly-appointed British Council India Country Director Alison Barrett said that the move would provide a good opportunity for both UK universities and students.

Speaking to TNIE, she said universities are always looking for the opportunity to set up their own campuses. "However, it will definitely depend on the quantum of investment and support. UK universities have a lot of experience of setting up campuses in other countries. So, the UK is very familiar with the process. We hope to see a lot of UK universities here. We're also one of the most internationalised systems in the world, with a third of our faculty coming from other countries. It really benefits from that kind of diverse experience and different perspectives, backgrounds and traditions," she told TNIE.

> **We hope to see a lot of UK universities here. We're also one of the most internationalised systems in the world, with a third of our faculty coming from other countries**
>
> Alison Barrett, British Council India Country Director

Barrett was appointed head of the British Council India in January and is hoping to encourage more students from the UK to study in India. "We're looking forward to strengthening that and ensuring that Indian students have the best experience when they come to the UK. We're also looking to bring in more UK students to India. It is particularly an important area for me, as I had come to India when I was young, and had an opportunity to experience not only the cultural traditions and history, but also the modern side of India," she said.

At the school-level, she said that the British Council is also working towards providing digital literacy in the state, in collaboration with the Department of School Education and Literacy. "We are currently working with 200 government schools to improve digital literacy, and teach them coding and use of new technology. We are also ensuring that those opportunities are equitable, so making sure that there are as many girls as we can," she said.

"While we have several collaborations with states, one of the parameters for collaboration is if the state has a significant relation with the UK. Karnataka has one of the largest numbers of students going to the UK for study, which helps us in making our partnerships stronger. Bengaluru is also well-known for its tech solutions, as well as its stress on start-ups and entrepreneurship," she said.

Video reignites demand for cycle lanes, road infra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE video of a cyclist and a bus driver embroiled in a spat in the city has reignited the debate on the safety of pedestrians and cyclists and the need for improving mobility and road infrastructure.

In the video, which has gone viral, the duo were were seen arguing near Vajarahalli Metro station. The cyclist claimed that the bus driver was driving recklessly.

On Sunday, Phaneesh Nagaraja, who posted the video online, deleted it stating that the driver had apologised to them at the Thalaghattapura police station.

Citizens highlighted poor infrastructure after the video began doing the rounds. They feared that such incidents will happen if pedestrians, cyclists and drivers do not have a designated spot.

Sathya Sankaran, founder, Council for Active Mobility, said pedestrians and cyclists are the most vulnerable on roads. As there are no designated lanes, it becomes hard for vehicles and people to safely navigate. Accidents can also be ascribed to this. There is a need to segregate cycle lanes and footpaths to avoid such incidents.

Sankaran said that the layout of roads is not proper, and questioned the authorities.

A netizen suggested that a footpath cell be introduced under BMTC and BMRCL to monitor pedestrian access. Footpaths should be given a priority while discussing mobility in a congested city like Bengaluru, citizens said.

My legs were shaking: Staffer who gave card to PM

S LALITHA @ Bengaluru

SUPERINTENDENT Bharati S Iyer, who has been with the BMRCL for 13 years, was informed a fortnight ago what her duties would entails when Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrives on Saturday.

She has been rehearsing what she would do during the apotheosis.

The day came and Modi walked upto her at the ticket counter at Whitefield Kadugodi station. She recalled her legs were shaking.

"I told him [the prime minister] Namaste, welcome to Namma Bengaluru," she said, and handed over the card to Modi for his travel on the first Metro train from the station. PM's staffers had by then already paid the BMRCL to purchase the card, a senior Metro official said. "I was literally on Cloud Nine," said Iyer, who had graduated in computer science from St Joseph's College.

Superintendent Bharathi S Iyer, who handed over the card to the PM, on the inaugural Metro train | LALITHA S

However, the excitement and nervousness was so much that she failed to remember much of what happened. She describe Modi as "a warm and very friendly person".

The mother of a 13-year-old, Iyer said, "No one even in my close circle knew about it. I never imagined that I would meet the prime minister, till it happened. My father saw a video of me handing over the card to Modi, and called me up later to confirm if it was me." Rest of her shift at Baiyappanahalli was usual but she was vividly exhilarated.

'It's an honour'

P Priyanka, station controller-cum-train operator, has just completed five years with BMRCL. From Davanagere, an engineer from JSS University, Mysuru, steered the inaugural train on Saturday, on which was a special commuter - the prime minister. "My seniors at BMRCL asked me two weeks ago if I would be ready to operate. I told them it would be a matter of great pride for me." "I was elated and nervous at the same time throughout my trip," she told TNIE, "For two weeks, I was trained to drive along a particular route. The average speed was 50 kmph."

From Ballari, her in-laws called her first, and conveyed how happy they were. Her husband is also a BMRCL employee.

Asked why she was picked, she said, "I have never committed any fault in operations over the last five years. That's what my seniors told me."

Both she and Priyanka Bellary, who steered the train during the return trip, reported for duty an hour before they drove the train at 1.17 pm, she said.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

27TH March : We are constantly moving between The New Moon and the Full Moon – every fourteen days, in fact. That's just one of those complicated and fast-moving factors we astrologers have to contend with. Whatever, this is an excitable moment and therefore, in my opinion, a time to remain calm. Easy does it!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Try to have a business-like start to the day. It would be a shame to miss out on the Moon's alignment with financial regions of your chart, indicating that you may now take responsibility for money - and that you can't blame anyone else if you pay over the odds.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
When the Moon is as helpful as it is right now, life has to improve. It should be enough to convince you that private affairs and professional offers are generally favourable, just as long as you can cope with a few unexpected mood swings. You don't have to worry about the past - at least not today.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
The Moon is already sending emotional ripples through your affairs. Just for now there are probably one or two things you need to keep to yourself, so feel free to do so. Socially, you may go for entertainments which are tried and tested, ones which avoid risks and potential embarrassment.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
The long-term pattern of your life has now shifted, and you will be obliged to go back over old matters that you thought were dead and buried. Don't see this as a waste of time, but as a typically eccentric way of moving forward by going sideways.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
Your outlook, tactics and general approach are all capable of creating a stir, especially at work. It's a day for competition rather than co-operation, so you should feel at home. The trick is not to mind whether you fail or not, for unless you come unstuck occasionally, you'll never discover your real strengths.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
Use your time profitably to press on with educational matters, check up on travel plans and generally make sure that you know your rights. Broaden your horizons, and don't let others force you into a corner. In other words, put aside the habits of a lifetime!

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
At least you should now have the courage to press on with business plans. It looks as if family and domestic expenditure are high up the agenda, but there'll be time enough in the future for luxuries and treats. Your current priority should be to consolidate your gains.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
You really do have to accept that there is no time like the present for making firm decisions. You have become used to delaying tactics, even to obstruction from those who should know better, but this is about to change. You never know - you might even receive an apology. But don't count on it!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
In a matter of days you will recover your ability to think straight and take the right decisions. Hopefully others will recognise that your judgment is back on top form. Just for today, you should focus on purely routine matters, if only to catch up with yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
Much of the visible planetary activity takes place in the regions of your chart which encourage you to take the initiative, rather than sitting back and waiting for other people. Of course, for that to happen, you have to be sure of what you want, and that's another matter entirely.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
Romantic secrets and feelings which you've been keeping to yourself for far too long, are about to be revealed. It will therefore pay you to have your story ready rather than being caught on the hop. The last thing you want now is extra embarrassment.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Nobody should underestimate the power of the Piscean mind. In spite of your often vague manner, you will now show that you are quite capable of both conjuring up interesting ideas and putting them into practice before others have realised what's going on.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

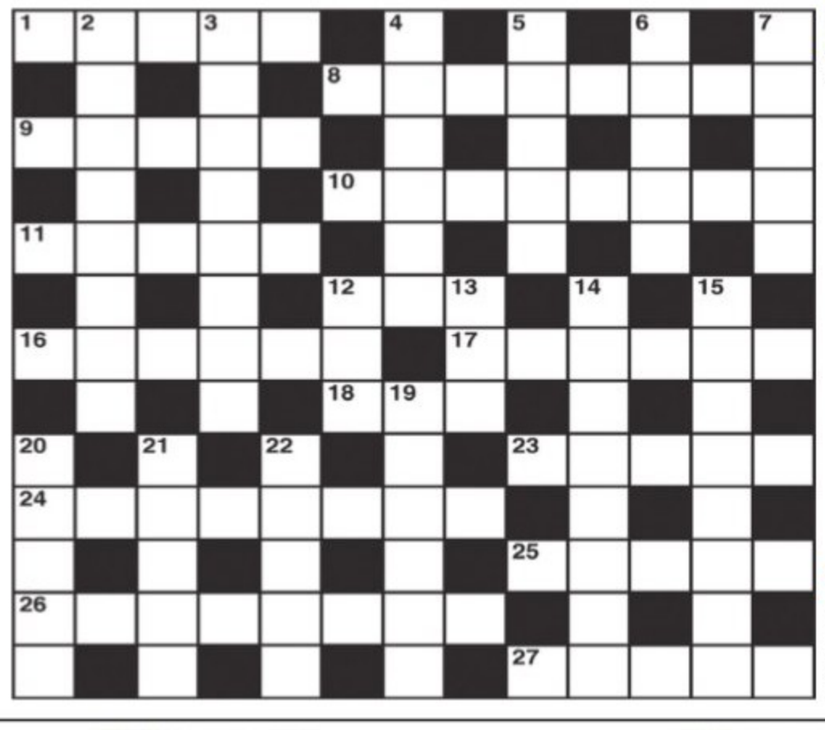
		6	2				4	
	3				1	8		
5			8	6				2
				7				
1		2				3		6
				8				
6				2	7			3
		5	4				1	
	4				8	6		

6	7	4	5	8	2	3	9	1
1	9	2	3	4	7	8	6	5
3	5	8	1	9	6	7	4	2
5	1	6	8	7	3	4	2	9
2	4	7	9	6	1	5	8	3
9	8	3	4	2	5	1	7	6
8	2	1	7	5	9	6	3	4
7	3	9	6	1	4	2	5	8
4	6	5	2	3	8	9	1	7

SUDOKU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS

1 Convenient place to hang the bath plug (2,3)
8 Contest in which the winners pull away (3-2-3)
9 Sovereign power say (5)
10 Sort of key found in a cupboard? (8)
11 Opening joke (5)
12 A short cut (3)
16 Tired agent takes shelter inside (6)
17 He upsets both Ronald and Roland (6)
18 Put a foot wrong doing right about turn (3)
23 A book to remember? (5)
24 It has a thick skin rougher than peel (8)
25 Fruit that gives individual vitality (5)
26 One in the church made to perform duties (8)
27 Type badly putting an extra t in trivial (5)

DOWN

2 Brown climbs mountains making notes (8)
3 Claret is unusual material for press features (8)
4 Silly bird? (6)
5 Work of monumental stupidity (5)
6 What's possibly cut by the scythe (5)
7 Managed football club without money abroad (5)
12 A brief farewell (3)
13 Advocates prohibition (3)
14 Private hint (8)
15 It expresses assent and no mistake (3,5)
19 They're for firing ovens perhaps (6)
20 Fees for periods in school (5)
21 Intends to give me a short answer (5)
22 Spell shape incorrectly (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Amateurish, 6 Main, 10 China, 11 Pentecost, 12 Immortal, 13 Throw, 15 Outward, 17 Despair, 19 Seconds, 21 Sun bath, 22 Gapes, 24 Readable, 27 Acquittal, 28 Tango, 29 Stew, 30 Shaped well.

Down: 1 Arch, 2 Axiomatic, 3 Erato, 4 Reputed, 5 Singled, 7 Amour, 8 Noteworthy, 9 Jettison, 14 Fog signals, 16 Agnostic, 18 At a glance, 20 Scratch, 21 Scallop, 23 Pique, 25 Acted, 26 Toil.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

VNYEO

PLESL

GAUTEO

KUANSM

I cannot believe how well these are selling!
People seek knowledge. We need to expand our content and add employees.
THEY WERE SELLING LOTS OF ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND EXPANDING THEIR BUSINESS, WHICH ---

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: GRAND AGENT PREFIX BEHAVE
Answer: The warning from the ranger about the grizzlies was important enough to — BEAR REPEATING

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Department of Health and Family Welfare

Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Launch of Various Health Programmes

Launch by

Dr. Mansukh L. Mandaviya

Hon'ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers

In the August Presence of

Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Presided by

Dr. K. Sudhakar
Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Medical Education

27-03-2023 • 11:30 AM • Sulalappana Dinne, Near KV Campus, BB Road, Chikkaballapur

Ayushmathi Clinics, First time in Karnataka

For wellbeing of women, a whole new chapter in women's healthcare.

AyuShmati CLINIC
Healthy women. Healthy society.

Ayushmathi clinics are dedicated clinics to provide health and wellness services for women.

Services Provided:
Free Specialist services, counselling, lab tests, drugs and referral services

Launching 3rd phase of Namma Clinic

Namma Clinic
For providing Comprehensive Primary Health Care Services for Urban People

- One 'Namma Clinic' for every 15000-20000 population for poor, vulnerable class, slum and migrant people living in urban areas
- Provides quality and comprehensive primary health care services
- Continuum care of services through Referral services to secondary and tertiary care facilities
- Reduces out of pocket expenditure
- Decentralisation of primary health care services

A STEMI patient needs to be treated within 90 minutes of symptom onset. Every 30-minute delay thereafter results in a 50% loss of heart muscle.

Implementation of the STEMI Management model will bring about universal access to STEMI care and will result in saving lives that would otherwise have been lost.

STEMI Management Project Karnataka

(STEMI: ST Elevation Myocardial Infarction)

Partnership: Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research and Tricog Health Pvt Ltd

The STEMI care model:

- **Tertiary Hospitals: Hubs**
  (3 Jayadeva Hospitals at Bengaluru, Mysuru and Kalburagi)
- **Peripheral hospitals: Spokes**
  (10 District Hospitals and 35 Taluk Hospitals)
- **A network of ambulances for inter-facility transfer** (ALS)
- **STEMI Kit:**
  A multifunctional 12-lead ECG integrated multi-parameter monitoring unit with data entry capability is installed in the hospitals and in the ambulances connecting these.

Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Medical Education, Dr. K. Sudhakar attending health department programme.

Cochlear Implant Scheme

Shravana Dosha Mukhtha Karnataka

500 Cochlear Implant beneficiaries will be benefited with free investigation, hearing aid trial therapy, implant, surgery and post operative switch on therapy and 1year AVT therapy worth Rs.6.27 Lakh at completely Free of Cost.

- Severe to Profound Hearing loss children's less than 6 years will be provided with free investigations/ screening for hearing, free supply of Hearing aids, free surgery and free AVT therapy.
- In Karnataka under SAST 25 Hospitals are empanelled to provide Cochlear Implant surgery services.
- In the FY 2022-23 till Mar 2023 from Feb.2022 Totally 157 surgeries are completed and are under follow up.

"To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures."
- is the fundamental duty of every Citizen of our Country, enshrined in the Constitution.

Wear Mask | Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene | Avoid Crowded Places | Don't spit in public places | Get yourself voluntarily vaccinated

Your Health, Our Responsibility.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who unveiled an 11-foot statue of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and a 103-foot National Flag at Gorta village, Raichur district, on Sunday, took on the BRS-led Telangana government for not showing interest in celebrating 'Hyderabad Liberation Day' every September 17

BJP GOVT THREATENED LINGAYAT, VOKKALIGA SEERS TO ACCEPT 2% QUOTA: SHIVAKUMAR

Says will reverse reservation decisions once Congress comes to power in Karnataka

AICC General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala in conversation with ex-CM Siddaramaiah in Bengaluru on Sunday. KPCC chief DK Shivakumar looks on | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru, Tumakuru

KARNATAKA Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president DK Shivakumar on Sunday in Bengaluru alleged that the BJP government threatened Vokkaliga community religious head Sri Nirmalanandanatha Swamiji and Panchamasali Lingayat seer Sri Jaya Mruthyunjaya Swamiji to accept the 2 per cent hike each in quota.

"The government called them up 20-25 times asking them to accept the new quota. But Vokkaligas and Lingayats are not beggars to receive the quota that has been robbed from the 4 per cent OBC quota for Muslims. Are minorities not our people," he asked.

"Do you have a legal department? Is this your property to share the quota on the whims of three or four people? No community is a beggar to receive this alms of yours. We oppose this. Reservation should be allotted to these communities on the basis of population. Congress is committed to it," he said. The state and central governments are resorting to hate politics as they have changed the reservation thrice in 90 days though no commission has given its report, he said. He said Congress, which will form the government in 30-40 days after winning the Assembly polls, will cancel the reservation reshuffle by the BJP government.

"The existing 56 per cent cap on reservation should have been expanded to hike the quota. Lingayats had asked for 15 per cent and Vokkaligs 12 per cent," he said.

Congress Legislature Party leader Siddaramaiah said the Centre should dismiss the state government as it has reshuffled the quota matrix unconstitutionally without forming a commission.

Minorities to move court

Muslim leaders, including clerics, who met under the chairmanship of former Union minister K Rahman Khan, have resolved to move court against the scrapping of 4 per cent OBC quota for Muslims.

They discussed the pros and cons of the government's decision. "Without any report by the state backward classes commission, the government has taken the decision which we will question in the court," said Shivajinagar Congress MLA Rizwan Arshad.

Law Minister JC Madhu Swamy said that every citizen has a right to move the court. "Out of 10 per cent economically weaker section quota, only 1.5 per cent has been utilised by Brahmins and Jains. The remaining 8.5 per cent is open for Muslims," he said.

Bommai: Will not rest till the oppressed get justice

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hubballi

CHIEF Minister Basavaraj Bommai has said that the Bharatiya Janata Party will release its list of candidates once the election dates are announced. "The BJP always releases the list of candidates only after the polling dates are declared. The same would be followed this time also. The list would be released at the right time," he told reporters at his residence in Hubballi on Sunday.

On the ongoing reservation issue, Bommai said that he would not rest till the oppressed classes are given justice. He said the demand for a hike in the reservation for Vokkaligas and Lingayats had been pending for the last 30 years but the Congress did nothing and gave only false assurances. "We showed our commitment by getting a report, got the study done, constituted a Cabinet sub-committee, and took a bold decision as per law," the chief minister elaborated.

Bommai said the Congress leaders are frustrated as the BJP did what they could not do. "The Congress always hoodwinked SC/STs and that has been their track record. They are under the wrong impression that they would get those votes by showing sympathy but are not aware of the fact that there is an elected government to decide it," the CM said.

On allegations of the government snatching away 4% quota for Muslims and distributing the same among the other two communities, the CM said they are eligible for a 4% quota on economic grounds but now they are given 10% instead of 4%. "Then how would it become an injustice for the Muslims? The government has taken a wise decision by keeping the welfare of Muslims in mind," he added.

Meanwhile, speaking in Haveri, the CM said reservation has been given to Vokkaligas and Lingayats legitimately. Speaking at the inauguration of the Veerashaiva-Lingayat Panchamasali community hall and laying the foundation stone for the Haradhyana Mandira in Haveri on Sunday, he said the reservation has been given to the communities without doing injustice to others.

"The relentless fight by Sri Jayamruthyunjaya Swamiji awakened the State Government," he said.

Meanwhile, he said the State Government will soon release funds for Adi Jagadguru Panchacharya Veda, Agama, and Sanskrit Pathashale. Besides, all assistance will be given for goshalas and for the mutt development, Bommai said.

CENTRE WILL PROTECT QUOTA: MINISTER

Karnataka Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister JC Madhu Swamy in Tumakuru clarified that the state government has taken the decision to hike the reservation for different communities and classification of SC quota with an assurance from the BJP national leadership that it will give protection to the move in Parliament. He clarified that the government will not take any step to remove Lambanis and Bhovis from the SC category as mentioned by it in its reply to the Central SC Commission. "The hike in quota for SC/STs, classification and other changes will be implemented only after Parliament clears them," he said.

RAGA DISQUALIFICATION: CAN CONGRESS TURN CRISIS INTO AN OPPORTUNITY?

JUST when it is preparing to go full throttle with its campaign to return to power in Karnataka and emerge as a strong force ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, Congress is now facing one of its worst crises after the disqualification of former AICC president Rahul Gandhi's Lok Sabha membership.

The party may be waiting to take on the government when the Parliament session resumes on Monday and hoping to get some respite from the courts, but as a political party, its ability to take the issue before people will be put to test during the Karnataka polls. Can the party convert this crisis into an opportunity is the big question. Any hope and possibility of the party's revival are directly linked to that.

It is almost like a now-or-never moment for the party as there are many positives for Congress. The Gandhi family has its appeal in Karnataka. AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge can touch the chord with voters in his home state better than anywhere else in the country. Despite its poor show in elections, Congress has a considerable support base at the grassroots level.

The real challenge is to leverage those strengths. The Congress' immediate response to Rahul Gandhi's disqualification raised doubts about its ability to take up the cudgels effectively. The party is likely to make it one of the major issues during the Karnataka polls. But translating it into electoral dividends depends on how its leaders connect with the masses to drive home their point.

The Congress' biggest drawback is the lack of firepower required to match BJP's carpet-bombing style of campaigning. Even before the announcement of poll dates, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah have addressed many rallies, taking turns to visit the state.

On their part, central leaders from Congress have hardly made their presence felt in Karnataka. They seem to have left it to state Congress president DK Shivakumar and former chief minister Siddaramaiah to lead the party, making it look like a fight between the might of BJP's central leadership versus state Congress leaders.

The speed and manner in which the Congress leader was disqualified raises several questions. Many in Congress feel that they need to talk about how Rahul is being constantly targeted by the ruling party for getting under its skin, and also larger issues of democracy, freedom of speech, and the opposition's right and duty to question those in power.

It is yet to be seen if the party's central or state units will come up with any campaign strategies to take the message to voters and sustain it.

The BJP will continue with its strategy of portraying Rahul as a non-serious politician and show that everything is not hunky-dory within the Grand Old Party. The party's aggressive campaign against Rahul's remarks in the United Kingdom was also seen as an attempt to sully his image as a serious politician, which he had gained after his Bharat Jodo yatra from Kanyakumari to Kashmir.

As Congress raises the issue, BJP will certainly use Rahul's "Modi surname" remarks against Congress terming it as an insult to a particular community. A court in Gujarat convicted the Congress MP for his remarks made in Kolar in the run-up to the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. A day after the court verdict, he was disqualified as a Lok Sabha member.

However, some senior BJP leaders admit, in private, that disqualifying an MP based on a lower court order sets a bad precedent. They are of the view that the Supreme Court should have the last word in the case of parliament members and state high courts in the case of legislators.

Be that as it may, Congress' ability to convert this crisis into an opportunity and woo Karnataka voters, especially neutral voters, will be put to test in the next few weeks.

Shah pats Bommai for scrapping Muslim quota

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah, unveiling the statues of 12th century social reformer Basavanna and Nadaprabhu Kempegowda at Vidhana Soudha on Sunday, patted Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on the back for his cabinet's decision to scrap the 4 per cent OBC quota for Muslims and sharing it 2 per cent each among Lingayats and Vokkaligas.

In the presence of a posse of religious heads, including Vokkaliga community seer Sri Niramalanandanatha Swamiji of Adi Chuchanagiri Mutt and Veerashaiva Lingayat community's Sri Shivarathrideshikendra Swamiji of Suttur Mutt, Shah's statement assumed significance ahead of the state Assembly polls. In an attempt to woo the two largest and influential communities of the state, Shah termed as historic the scrapping of the Muslim quota and using it to hike the reservation for Vokkaligas and Lingayats.

"Some religions have been using the reservation facilities given by the Constitution for a long time," he said. "Basavanna, who introduced democracy to the world, and Nadaprabhu Kempegowda, who managed an efficient and far-sighted administration, are great spirits who prefaced social justice and comprehensive development of this country", he said.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, flanked by CM Basavaraj Bommai, former CM BS Yediyurappa, Assembly Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri, Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti, Suttur Mutt Seer Sri Shivaratri Deshikendra Swamiji and Adichunchanagiri Mutt Seer Nirmalananda Swamiji at the unveiling of the statues of Lord Basavanna and Kempegowda, in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

> **Basavanna, who introduced democracy to the world, and Nadaprabhu Kempegowda, who managed an efficient and far-sighted administration, are great spirits who prefaced social justice and comprehensive development of this country** — Amit Shah, Union Home Minister

Under the able leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country is at the top in foreign investment. Karnataka is at the forefront in the defense and aviation industry, he added. "It was a challenge to protect a city like Bangalore from the Covid epidemic. The then chief minister BS Yediyurappa and incumbent Basavaraja Bommai have succeeded in this regard with efficient administration," he said.

Gujarat CM meets Gujaratis in Bengaluru

Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel held a meeting of Gujaratis at Palace Grounds and drew a parallel between Mahatma Gandhi and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel comparing them with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amit Shah, calling them Gujarati icons. "It was the visionary leadership of Modi that has upped India's reputation worldwide today. We as Gujaratis should take pride in it. Let us strengthen the leadership of Narendrabhai by keeping the trust and confidence placed in Janata Janardhan in the politics of development," he said.

The Sadakal Gujarat programme was organised by the Karnataka Gujarati Society and the Non-Resident Gujarati Foundation of the Government of Gujarat.

Shah rips apart Cong, JDS over corruption

RAMKRISHNA BADSESHI
@ Gabbur (Raichur district)

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday tore into the Opposition accusing the Congress and JDS of being corrupt. He was addressing a gathering after initiating and inaugurating several welfare schemes worth over Rs 4,500 crore at Gabbur village in Raichur district.

Shah said that the Congress and JDS are both "faces of corruption" and voters of Karnataka should not give them power. Recalling the 2018 Assembly election in Karnataka, Shah said the BJP had to sit in the opposition despite winning 104 seats as the Congress and JDS joined hands to form the government. "JDS could not even win 40 seats. The JDS and Congress formed a coalition government to amass money. The Congress treated Karnataka like its ATM to transfer money to high command. You (voters) should decide whom to elect... a party that aims for the state's welfare or a party that uses the state as its ATM," he said.

> **The Janata Dal (Secular) and Congress formed a coalition government to amass money. The Congress treated Karnataka like its ATM to transfer money to high command**
>
> Amit Shah, Union Home Minister

Listing out the achievements of the Narendra Modi-led Union Government, Shah said that the country has earned a name in almost all fields and the economy has improved. He said Pakistan, which used to trouble India during the Congress rule, has now become powerless. He added that the casualties from Covid-19 in the country are much less compared to other countries.

"In Karnataka, the Basavaraj Bommai-led government has given sufficient grants for the completion of irrigation projects. The government has also provided reservation to many castes and also increased reservation for SC/STs," he said.

On projects being implemented in Raichur, the Home Minister said, "An IIIT has been sanctioned for Raichur and a medical college is now functioning. Today, foundation stone has been laid for Raichur airport," he added.

"The name of Hyderabad Karnataka Region was changed to Kalyana Karnataka by former CM BS Yediyurappa. He also changed it into a welfare state and increased grants to Kalayna Karnataka Region Development Board. Now, CM Bommai has further increased the grant to Rs 5,000 crore for the year 2023-24," he said.

GETTING READY

State BJP core panel discusses poll strategy

ENS @ Bengaluru

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah, who took part in a series of events in Karnataka on Sunday, attended a meeting of the state BJP core and campaign committees, where he asked BJP leaders to strengthen the party base in Karnataka. The meeting was attended by CM Basavaraj Bommai, ex-CM BS Yediyurappa, state party president Nalinkumar Kateel, BJP General Secretary BL Santhosh, CT Ravi and others. Union ministers Shobha Karandlaje and Dharmendra Pradhan too attended the meeting at a private hotel.

It was the second core committee meeting after the party's election campaign started. "We had hoped that the meeting would be about the candidate lists, but Shah discussed more about strengthening the party from the booth level, campaigning and roadshows. He discussed the election strategy," BJP sources said. Shah told leaders to publicise the recent cabinet decision to increase quota for Lingayats and Vokkaligas. During the last Assembly polls, PM Narendra Modi had come to Karnataka more than 20 times and this time too, he is expected to travel as many times, said a senior BJP leader.

REJECT BOTH NATIONAL PARTIES, GIVE JDS MAJORITY: HDK TO VOTERS

K SHIVA KUMAR @ Mysuru

THE Janata Dal (Secular) on Sunday blew the poll bugle in Karnataka by appealing to the voters to reject both the national parties (Congress and BJP) and to give it an absolute majority to bring back the golden era in the state. Addressing a mammoth convention organised to mark the valedictory of the JDS' pancharatna yatra on the outskirts of Mysuru, senior JDS leader and former chief minister HD Kumaraswamy said that the state will see an election result similar to 1994 when HD Deve Gowda became the CM with an absolute majority.

Kumaraswamy said that the old Mysuru region had given the party 74 MLAs in 1994 and claimed that the same story will repeat in 2023 to help the party achieve the target of winning 123 seats. "You may give me 50 seats. But, I want 123 seats to provide a five-year government to put the state on the development track and empower farmers," he said.

He said that the prevailing political situation in Kolar and Chikkabalapura districts will give JDS an edge in 10 seats and the party will sweep all the seats in Tumakuru district. He said people of Mandya, Mysuru, and Hassan will continue to support Gowda's leadership "who strived all his life for the empowerment of farmers, the poor, the Dalits".

JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda being brought to the dais of the JDS convention on a chair hoisted on a trolley, in Mysuru on Sunday. JDS leaders HD Revanna, Nikhil, Prajwal and Suraj greet the gathering | UDAYASHANKAR S

Taking a dig at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's frequent visits to Karnataka, Kumaraswamy questioned what stopped the former from visiting the state when farmers committed suicide and when people were hit by floods. "It is unfortunate that the PM did not visit the family of a single farmer who ended his life," he claimed.

He also said Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was a mere slogan as open defecation was still rampant in north Karnataka.

Alleging irregularities in recruitment of PSIs and in other departments, the former CM urged voters not to believe BJP central leaders flooding the state making promises ahead of polls. The JD(S) leader pulled up CLP leader Siddaramaiah for taking credit for several baghyas (schemes).

Listing out the party's pancharatna assurances of 50% profit to farmers, free education, health coverage, and other benefits to people, he said that they will mobilise Rs 2.5 lakh crore to implement the programmes that are chalked out by him and not by economists or foreign experts.

Recalling the contributions of HD Deve Gowda to complete irrigation projects in North Karnataka and taking Hemavathi waters to Mandya and Tumakuru districts, Kumaraswamy said that people of Punjab have named one of the varieties of paddy after the JDS supremo but the national parties did not have the courtesy to remember his contributions.

He also said that he waived farm loans during the coalition government despite opposition from the Congress.

Chairman of Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation Rajkumar Patil Telkur on Sunday said KKRTC will completely come out of its losses before its silver jubilee celebrations in the year 2025

BBMP holds survey to achieve elimination of measles, rubella

Urban body is taking more steps to control other preventable diseases, says official

NAMRATA SINDWANI @Bengaluru

BBMP district task force has been conducting door-to-door surveys to identify and vaccinate children upto five years to achieve measles and rubella elimination in India with the support of field health workers. BBMP Special Commissioner (Health), Dr KV Thrilok Chandra, said the Palike has taken measures to vaccinate children who would have missed it.

The Palike is taking more steps to control other preventable diseases. In the past two weeks, 1.15 lakh children have been vaccinated with the first MR dosage and 1.07 lakh children with the second, Chandra said.

According to WHO, "Measles is highly infectious and an acute viral disease with no specific treatment. It is also one of the leading causes of childhood mortality among vaccine preventable diseases in India."

It is an air-borne disease causing 10-12 days infection including high fever, cough, running nose, red eyes and skin rashes. In cases where a child is not vaccinated, it can lead to ear infection, blindness, diarrhoea, pneumonia and death.

Doctors said measles can be prevented with a safe and effective vaccination and is covered under India's universal immunisation programme. Every child is eligible for MR vaccination for free.

Dr Rajath Athreya, senior consultant and head of the department, Paediatrics and Neonatology, Sakra World Hospital, said the incidence WHO currently reports is 1 in 20,000, hence India is still far from MR elimination. However, the coverage for MR vaccination is much better in Urban Bengaluru. Appreciating BBMP's initiative, he said in a pre-vaccination state measles is highly infectious and causes immune amnesia causing severe immunodeficiency in children. Compromised immunity eventually makes them susceptible to many diseases. Hence, identifying and vaccinating the children will help in reducing mortality rate.

IT'S TIME TO SAY RCB.....!

Fans of Royal Challengers Bangalore watch their favourite players in action during a practice session ahead of IPL matches at M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru on Sunday; (right) Star batsman Virat Kohli checks out his gears | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

'ED caused by narrowing blood vessels due to stress'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE underlying reason for Covid-driven ED could be the associations established between endothelial dysfunction (narrowing of blood vessels) and distress during Covid, the experts said.

Dr Avinash TS, consultant urologist, SPARSH Hospital, also confirmed that ED cases are being seen in large numbers immediately after the pandemic. He explained that for a person to have normal erection, good blood flow is required. The blood vessels become narrow when a person is in stress which results in ED. Cases in the younger population are treated with counselling and medicines. Usually older patients need invasive surgeries requiring penile implants.

Doctors explained that most ED and MI cases can be treated by a combination of counselling and oral medication and change in interpersonal relationship. But in other cases, modern surgical techniques are required.

ED is also associated with various causal factors such as age, diabetes, increased tobacco and alcohol consumption, hypertension, cardiovascular disease and obesity.

TWO CHAIN SNATCHERS ARRESTED

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Puttenahalli police have arrested two chain snatchers who had allegedly attacked a woman with a machete in a bid to rob her gold chain. The accused have been identified as Manoj Kumar and Franklin, residents of LR Nagar near Adugodi.

The police said the accused, on March 6 evening, had attacked a woman near Sarakki lake. The victim, Saraswathi, a resident of JP Nagar seventh phase, was walking towards a temple when two bike-borne miscreants tried to snatch her gold chain. The woman resisted them and fought with them. The accused attacked her with a machete causing serious injury to her hand and sped away. "A case was taken up and the accused were identified after verifying CCTV camera footage and were arrested based on credible information. Manoj Kumar has a criminal past and was arrested by the Bannerghatta police in connection with a murder case. He continued committing offences after being released on bail. Besides, he also has a murder attempt case against him in Adugodi station," the police added.

Banner war: BJP workers accused of assaulting man

ENS @Bengaluru

A 31-year-old marketing professional who allegedly objected to putting up banners and flexes was allegedly assaulted by BJP workers in Rajajinagar.

The alleged incident took place on March 18 evening and the victim, Santosh M, a resident of Rajaji Nagar 3rd Block, lodged a complaint with the Magadi Road police on March 24. Santosh alleged that he came across posters and flexes put up on the footpath and a playground near the Ram Mandir ward office in Rajajinagar. He contacted the BBMP officials and brought it to their notice and asked them to remove the banners as it was in violation of the Supreme Court directions. As the BBMP officials, who said they will be coming in a while, didn't turn up even after an hour, Santosh splashed used oil that was kept outside a garage there on the banners.

"While he was returning, 10-15 BJP workers attacked him and assaulted him. They allegedly recorded a video of the incident and also posted the videos on social media. We have registered a case against eight persons under the provisions of the SC & ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and the IPC and are investigating," the police said.

EXPRESS READ

JDS files plaint against Sambargi

BENGALURU: The legal cell of the JDS has lodged a complaint against social activist Prashanth Sambargi accusing him of uploading derogatory posts against JDS supremo and former PM HD Deve Gowda and former CM HD Kumaraswamy. President of JDS legal cell AP Ranganath filed a complaint with DCP (Central) Srinivas Gowda stating that Sambargi was trying to tarnish the image of the Gowda and Kumaraswamy by consistently posting baseless and derogatory posts on his social media account. ENS

Woman techie dies in e-way mishap

MYSURU: A woman techie from Bengaluru died while her colleague suffered serious injuries in an accident on the Mysuru Expressway at Gejjalagere in Maddur taluk. The police said Priyanka Raj (24), a native of Tamil Nadu died while her colleague Lakshminarayana Gowda (25) was injured. Due to over-speeding, Gowda lost control over his two-wheeler at Maddur and fell from the bike. While Priyanka, who was riding pillion, suffered severe head injuries and died on the spot, Gowda's left arm was severed and fell a few feet away from him. ENS

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
G20
national health authority
PM-JAY
Arogya Karnataka
Department of Health and Family Welfare
Department of Medical Education
An Era of continued Healthcare Development in Karnataka
Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister
Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister
APL Card
BPL Card
AYUSHMAN CARD
Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya - Arogya Karnataka Yojane
Launch of Ayushman Card Distribution Programme
Launch by
Dr. Mansukh L. Mandaviya
Hon'ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers
In the August Presence of
Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Presided by
Dr. K. Sudhakar
Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Medical Education
27-03-2023 • 11:30 AM • Sulalappana Dinne, Near KV Campus, BB Road, Chikkaballapur
Rs.5 Lakh worth of free treatment annually for the BPL families in the scheme.
Health cover of Rs.1.5 Lakh annually for APL families on co-payment basis (30%)
National Portability across all Empanelled Hospitals across the Country.
1650 Treatment Packages can be availed under the scheme implemented through Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust.
Number of beneficiaries treated under the scheme so far
Year | Govt. Hospital | Private Hospital | Total
Financial Year 2018-19 | 44,034 | 24,337 | 68,371
Financial Year 2019-20 | 4,95,541 | 1,01,401 | 5,96,942
Financial Year 2020-21 | 6,45,582 | 1,83,685 | 8,29,267
Financial Year 2021-22 | 11,31,168 | 1,85,749 | 13,16,917
Financial Year 2022-23* | 19,86,667 | 1,52,398 | 21,39,065
Total (From Nov. 2018 to 20 Mar. 2023) | 43,02,992 | 6,47,570 | 49,50,562
2,945 Government and 502 Empanelled Private Hospitals are providing treatment.
So far more than 49 Lakh beneficiaries have been treated under this scheme.
Through Suvarna Arogya Suraksha Trust, Rs.5,924 Cr. were spent on treatment.
Achievements of the State
Karnataka ranks First in the Country on the number of Empanelled Hospitals.
More than 1.38 Crore co-branded cards have been registered in the State so far.
Free Organ Transplant Scheme is being provided to the poor and so far more than 150 beneficiaries have benefited from the scheme.
Up to Rs.1 Lakh is provided for 76 types of free treatment under the trust for accident victims at all empanelled hospitals within the first 48 hours.
Timely Settlement of Claims within 15 days to Empanelled Hospitals.
Played a vital role in provision of beds and reimbursement for COVID-19 treatment costs for patients and excess charges of Rs.2.86 Crore has been recovered and reimbursed to the beneficiaries.
Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare and Medical Education, Dr. K. Sudhakar participating in Health Department programme.
For more details, visit your nearest Government Hospital or please call Toll-Free Helpline 14555 / 1800 425 8330
"To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife, and to have compassion for living creatures." - is the fundamental duty of every Citizen of our Country, enshrined in the Constitution.
Wear Mask
Follow Physical Distancing
Maintain Hand Hygiene
Avoid Crowded Places
Don't spit in public places
Get yourself voluntarily vaccinated
Your Health, Our Responsibility.

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only Through e-Procurement Portal)

BWSSB invites tenders in two cover system from eligible tenderers for the following works

Name of the Work	Amount put to tender / EMD

Office of the Chief Engineer (Design & Quality Assurance), 9th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G Road, Bangalore- 560 009

No.: BWSSB/CEDQTE/ACE(MIS-IT)/TA(D&QA)/2441/2022-23 Date: 23.03.2023

Work of Supply and Installation of 270 computers to BWSSB with the warranty period of Three years	Rs. 2,35,76,400/- / Rs. 3,53,646/-

Last date and time for reciept of tenders will be on 10.04.2023 upto 16:00 hrs. The bids will be opened on 12.04.2023 at 11:00 hrs. Sd/- Chief Engineer (Design & QA)

Office of the Chief Engineer (Kaveri-Operation & Maintenance), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G Road, Bangalore- 560 009

No.: BWSSB/CEK(O&M)TE/TA-01/82/2022/2098/2022-23 Date: 24.03.2023

Work of Construction of Bitumen Macadam Road to KPTCL 220kv Station under Jurisdiction of AEE (K-O&M) -1-1 at TK Halli.	Rs. 140 Lakhs / Rs. 2.48 Lakhs

Last date and time for reciept of tenders will be on 25.04.2023 upto 15:00 hrs. The bids will be opened on 26.04.2023 at 16:00 hrs. Sd/- Chief Engineer (Kaveri-O&M)

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**. For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/MIA/5431/2022-23

FORM NO. NCLT. 3A
Advertisement detailing petition
[See Rule 35]
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL CHENNAI BENCH
Company Petition No. CP(CAA)/3(CHE)/ 2023
IN
Company Application No. CA(CAA)/43 (CHE)/2022

In the matter of : **Section 230-232 of the Companies Act 2013**
And in the matter of : Scheme of Arrangement (Demerger) between petitioner companies :

NAP & Sons Enterprises & Business Private Limited, a company incorporated under the Companies Act 2013 and having its registered office at No.58 North Mada Street, Mylapore, Chennai 600 004 .....First Petitioner Company

AND

Knack Studios Media Private Limited, a company incorporated under the Companies Act 2013 and having its registered office at No.96, R.K Salai, Mylapore, Chennai 600 004 .....Second Petitioner Company

NOTICE OF PETITION

A petition filed under section 230-232 of the Companies Act, 2013 for an order sanctioning the Scheme of Arrangement (Demerger) between Nap & Sons Enterprises & Business Private Limited and Knack Studios Media Private Limited and their respective shareholders was presented by the Petitioner Companies on the 17th day of January 2023 and the said petition is fixed for hearing before Chennai bench of National Company Law Tribunal on 12th April 2023.

Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition/application should send to the petitioner's advocate, notice of his intention, signed by him or his advocate, with his name and address, so as to reach the petitioner's advocate not later than two days before the date fixed for the hearing of the petition. Where he seeks to oppose the petition/application, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his affidavit shall be furnished with such notice.

A copy of the petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.

Sd/-
Mansoor Ilahi
Counsel for the Petitioner Companies
C/o.Sundar and Co, Chartered Accountants, 1st Floor, No. 22, 23-L, Rainbow Arcade, Sir Thyagaraya Road, Pondy Bazaar, Chennai 600 017
Dated : 18.03.2023

IN THE COURT OF 14th ADDL. CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE, AT BENGALURU
Cri. Mis. Pet. No. 50280/2022

BETWEEN: Babu .R, S/o late Ramaiah, R/at 261, Agasarabeedi Doddanekkundi, Near Rama temple, Bangalore-560037... **PETITIONER**

AND: The Registrar Birth and Deaths, BBMP Mahadevapura, Bengaluru....**RESPONDENT**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the petitioner has filed petition for obtaining an order seeking direction to above said respondent authority to enter the death of petitioner's grandmother by KAVERAMMA Late Annaiah who died on 23-07-1963 at No.261, Agasarabeedi, Doddanekkundi, Near Rama temple, Bengaluru- 560 037 and accordingly obtain death certificate from the respondent. If any person interested to file their objection in this matter, may appear at 11:00 AM on **12-04-2023** to which date the case is posted for hearing, before the Hon'ble 14th ACMM at Bengaluru.

Given under my hand and the seal of the court on 24-03-2023.

By order of the court, 14th Addl Chief Metropolitan, Magistrate, Bengaluru.

Advocate for Petitioner: **Sri Gegal Gowda .H.K** No.33, Swayamprabhe, Ground Floor, North park road, Kumarapark East, Bengaluru-560001.

(Election Division)
Office of The Deputy Commissioner and District Election Officer, Chikkaballapura District, Chikkaballapura

e-Mail:deo.ckbpur@gmail.com Ph.: 08156-277004, Fax: 08156-277002

No.ELN(1)/CR/140/2022-23 Date: 23.03.2023

SHORT-TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited through e-procurement as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and 2000 from eligible and interested Bidders for providing various material/services as mentioned below related to the Assembly General Elections 2023 to the office of the Deputy Commissioner and all the Taluks of the District. Interested Bidders can submit applications through e-procurement portal **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sl. No.	Details	E.M.D. (in Rs.)
1	Regarding inviting Tender for supply of Polling Material	50,000/-
2	Regarding inviting Tender for providing Food, Snacks, Coffee, Tea (Refreshments)	1,25,000/-
3	Regarding inviting Tender for providing services of Computer, Laptop, Printer and Peripherals on contract basis	75,000/-
4	Regarding inviting Tender for Hiring of Cars on contract basis	1,25,000/-
5	Regarding inviting Tender for providing printing services	1,25,000/-
6	Regarding inviting Tender for Videography of various Election Processes	1,25,000/-

Tender Notice Schedule: **(1)** Commencement of download of e-tender Form from website **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**: **24.03.2023. (2)** Last Date for Queries on or before: **25.03.2023 till 5:00 PM. (3)** Last Date for Uploading of Tender in E-procurement platform on or before: **30.03.2023 till 5:00 PM. (4)** Opening of Technical Bid: **31.03.2023 till 05:00 PM. (5)** Date of Original Document Verification: **Will be done on the uploaded documents at e-portal. (6)** Opening of Financial Bid: **Will be intimated**

Sd/- District Election Officer and Deputy Commissioner, Chikkaballapura District.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ/ ಆರ್.ಓ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 594/ ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಎ/ 2022-23

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410

Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

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JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK
(A scheduled commercial bank)

Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagors have availed loans from **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited,** by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as **Non-performing Asset,** whereas **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued **Demand notice** calling upon the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within **60 days** from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	1) Mr. Raghu R, 2) Mrs. Pushpa	Loan Account No. 45359630000317 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/-	**Schedule-II - Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing No.61/P8, Katha No.23/61/P8, Situating at Agara Village, Agara Gram Panchayat, Kengeri Hobli, and Bangalore South Taluk. Measuring East to West: 30 Ft. North to South: 40 Ft. Total Measuring 1200 Sq.ft. and **Bounded by: North by:** Property belongs to Mr. Rangappa, **South by:** Road, **East by:** Remaining Property of same No. belongs to T Chikkathimmayya, **West by:** Property belongs to Ramakrishna.	**Date of NPA: 03-03-2023 Demand Notice Date: 23-03-2023**	**Rs.5,12,906.54** (Rupees Five Lakh Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred Six and Fifty Four Paisa Only) **due as on 18-03-2023**
2	1) Mrs. Poornima K J, 2) Mr. Ramesh N	Loan Account No. 47469420002696 Loan Amount: Rs.28,02,245/-	**Schedule-II - Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All that piece and parcel of the Converted property bearing Site No.3A/1, Formed by Sy.No.21/4, Situated Pattanagere Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Measuring East to West: 20-0 Feet, North to South: 30 Ft. Total Measuring 600 Sq.ft. The Property comes under the limits of BBMP, Hemmigepura Ward No.198, Kengeri, Bangalore, and **Bounded as follows: East by:** Road, **West by:** Site No.6, **North by:** Site No.2, **South by:** Site No.3.	**Date of NPA: 03-03-2023 Demand Notice Date: 23-03-2023**	**Rs.29,01,235.40** (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh One Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Five and Forty Paisa Only) **due as on 18-03-2023**

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within **60 days** of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No. 6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** against the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/ prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 27.03.2023, Place: Bangalore — Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

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HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE CORPORATION LTD.

Regd. Office: Ramon House, H T Parekh Marg, 169, Backbay Reclamation, Churchgate, Mumbai- 400020
Corporate Identity No. L70100MH1977PLC019916
Regional Office : HDFC House, No.51, Kasturaba Road, Bangalore - 560001. **Ph :** 080 41183000
Fax: 080 22275754, **E-mail : customer.service@hdfc.com, Website: www.hdfc.com**

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (HDFC Limited)** under Securitisation And Reconstruction Of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notice under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the Demand Notice, within 60 days from the date of the said Notice, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused/are getting the said Notice to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s)/Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notice are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s), may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to HDFC Limited, within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amount indicated hereinbelow in their name(s), together with further interest @ 18% p.a. as detailed in the said Demand Notice from the date mentioned below in column (c) till the date of payment and / or realisation, read with the loan agreement and other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset has been mortgaged to HDFC Limited by the said Borrower (s) respectively.

Attention of the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative (s)	Total Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	(Description of Secured Asset in respect of which Security Interest has been created)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(f)
01.	**Mr. Ghosh Gautam, (Borrower)** 21/17, Suresh Reddy Building, 2nd Cross, Marathahalli, Bengaluru 560037. **Also at :** Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, **Designation:** Security Office, **Department:** LCA Tejas Division, **Employee No:** 74304, LCA Tejas Division Bangalore, Complex Bengaluru - 560017 **Also at :** Flat-C-4, Floor-3, Om Shakthi Bhuvana - I, S No 46/49, Kh No 376, Yemalur, Marathahalli, Bengaluru-560037.	**Loan A/c No: 615902237 Rs.26,73,151/- [Rupees Twenty Six Lakhs Seventy Three Thousand One Hundred fifty One Only] As on 28.02.2023**	**23.03.2023 N.P.A. Date: (e) 04.12.2022**	**Schedule A :** All that piece and parcel of property bearing now assigned New BBMP Katha No.376/Sy No.46/49, Converted Sy.No.46/49, (Converted from agricultural to non agricultural residential purpose vide conversion certificate bearing No.ALN(E.V.H)SR:23/2013-14, dated 30.07.2013, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore) situated at **Yamalur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk,** presently under the jurisdiction of BBMP, measuring 5 Guntas, and bounded on the East by : Road, West by : Road, North by :Land in Sy No.46/54 Presently Om Shakthi Bhuvana Apartment, South by : Village Road. **Schedule B : 226 Sq.feet** undivided right, title and interest in the immovable property mentioned in schedule "A" above. **Schedule C :** Flat bearing **No.C-4, in the Third Floor,** measuring about **1130 Sq.feet** super built up area, containing Two bed rooms, together with RCC Roofing, Vitrified flooring together with **One covered car parking space,** including proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircase, etc., in the multistoried residential building known as **"Om Shakthi Bhuvana-I"** constructed over Schedule "A" property.

*with further interest @ 18% p.a. as applicable, incidental expenses, costs, charges etc incurred till the date of payment and / or realization. If the said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) fail to make payment to HDFC Limited as aforesaid, then HDFC Limited shall proceed against the above Secured Asset / Immovable Property under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences.

The said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset / Immovable Property, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of HDFC Limited. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules made thereunder shall be liable for imprisonment and/or penalty as provided under the Act.

Date: 27.03.2023
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorized Officer
HDFC Ltd., Under SARFAESI ACT, 2002

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India

UNION BANK OF INDIA
Regional Office - Ernakulam, 2nd Floor, Union Bank Bhavan, MG Road, Ernakulam-682035
Ph: 0484-2353969, E-mail: cmcrldroernakulam@unionbankofindia.bank

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES [See Proviso to rule 8(6)]

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Union Bank of India (secured creditor), will be sold "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" for recovery of respective dues with future interest of costs to the Union Bank of India as mentioned hereunder from the below mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price and the Earnest Money Deposit are also mentioned hereunder.

Branch Name & Address: Union Bank of India, Edapally Toll Branch (erstwhile Corporation Bank, Edappally Branch) Edappally Toll Jn., NH-47, P.O. Edappally South District, Ernakulam-682024, Ph:0484-2550844, E mail: ubin0569593@unionbankofindia.bank

Name of the Borrower & Guarantor/s: (1) Mr.Vishnu Kumar Babu, No.4A, Swiss House, Vazhakkala, Thrikkakara.P.O., Ernakulam.PIN- 682 021 **(2) Mr.Vishnu Kumar Babu,** Apartment No.314, S.K.Apartments, Bagalur Cross, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560065. **(3) Mr.Vishnu Kumar Babu,** Son and legal heir of Mr.Meleth Kumar Babu, **(4) Mr. Anjenes,** Son and legal heir of Mr.Meleth Kumar Babu **(5) Ms. Anisha,** Daughter and legal heir of Mr.Meleth Kumar Babu, **(6) Mrs. Santhoshkumari,** Wife and Legal heir of Mr.Meleth Kumar Babu all are residing at: No.4A, Swiss House, Vazhakkala, Thrikkakara.P.O., Ernakulam.PIN- 682 021, **(7) Mr.Vishnu Kumar Babu,** Son and legal heir of Mr.Meleth Kumar Babu, **(8) Mr. Anjenes,** Son and legal heir of Mr.Meleth Kumar Babu, **(9) Ms. Anisha,** Daughter and legal heir of Mr.Meleth Kumar Babu, **(10) Mrs.Santhoshkumari,** Wife and Legal heir of Mr.Meleth Kumar Babu all are residing at: Apartment No.8-D, Kingsway Flat, Opp.Changampuzha Park, Edapally, Kochi- 682 024.

Amount Due: Rs.48,26,496.49/- (Rupees Forty Eight lakhs twenty six thousand four hundred ninety six and forty nine paise only) outstanding as on 29.07.2022 with further interest and costs from 30.07.2022 till realization.

Description of immovable secured assets to be Sold: Item No.I:- All that piece and parcel of land admeasuring 2.55 ares (6.300 Cents) under Sy.No.335/1, Re.Sy.No.83/4-2, Block No.42 covered under Document No.8034 of 2008 dated 30.10.2008 in Thiruvaniyoor village, Kunnathunad Taluk, Puthencruz sub district, Ernakulam District owned by Mr.Meleth Kumar Babu. (Property description as specified in the Sale Deed No.No.8034 of 2008 dated 30.10.2008 of SRO Puthencruz) On the **North :** Property of C.A.Baskaran and Sobhana. On the **East** : Property of M.Mary On the **South** : Private Road On the **West** : Property of D.Sudhakaran and K.N.S.Nair. **Item No.II:-** All that piece and parcel of land admeasuring 2.10 ares (5.190 cents), Old Sy.No.335/1, Re.Sy.No.83/4-1-2, Block No.42, covered under Document No.8030/2008 dated 30.10.2008 in Thiruvaniyoor village, Kunnathunad taluk, Puthencruz Sub District, Ernakulam District owned by Mr.Meleth Kumar Babu. (Property description as specified in the Sale Deed No 8030/2008 dt.30.10.2008 of SRO Puthencruz) On the **North :** Property of Biju Chandrasekhar On the **East:** Property of M.Mary On the **South** : Private Road On the **West** : Property of P.Parameswaran **Item No.III:-** All that piece and parcel of land admeasuring 2.10 ares (5.189 cents), Old Sy.No.335/1, Re.Sy.No.83/4-2, Block No.42, Covered under Document No.8032/2008 dated 30.10.2018 in Thiruvaniyoor village, Kunnathunad Taluk, Puthencruz Sub District, Ernakulam District owned by Meleth Kumar Babu. (Property description as specified in the Sale Deed No 8032/2008 dt.30.10.2008 of SRO Puthencruz) On the **North :** Private Road On the **East** : Property of V.A.K.Nambiar On the **South** : Property of K.P.C.Unnithan On the **West :** Property of Jacob John.

Reserve Price : Item No.1:- Rs.8,51,000/-(Rupees Eight lakh fifty one thousand only) Item No.2:- Rs.6,31,000/-(Rupees Six lakh thirty one thousand only) Item No.3:- Rs.6,31,000/- (Rupees Six lakh thirty one thousand only) & Earnest Money to be Deposited : Item No.1:- Rs.85,100/-(Rupees Eighty five thousand one hundred only) Item No.2:- Rs.63,100/-(Rupees Sixty three thousand one hundred only) Item No.3:-Rs.63,100/-(Rupees Sixty three thousand one hundred only)

The details of encumbrances, above mentioned properties if any known to the Secured Creditor: Nil (however indenting bidders are advised to verify the EC and satisfy themselves before submitting bid)

Date & Time of E-Auction: 12.04.2023 between 11.00 A.M and 05.00 P.M.
(with 10 minutes unlimited auto extensions) **E-auction website: www.mstcecommerce.com**

For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to bank's website: **https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in** and link provided in **https://www.mstcecommerce.com**
For Registration and Login and Bidding Rules visit **https://www.mstcecommerce.com/auctionhome/ibapi/index.jsp**

Place : Ernakulam
Date : 24-03-2023

(Sd/-)
Authorised Officer, Union Bank of India

SHRIRAM HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Head Office: Level -3, Wockhardt Towers, East Wing C-2 Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051; **Tel:** 022 4241 0400, 022 4060 3100 ; **Website:** http://www.shriramhousing.in
Registered Off: Office No.123, Angappa Naicken Street, Chennai-600 001;
Branch Office: No. 96, R B Manor, 20th Main Road, Rajajinagar 2nd block, Bangalore – 560010

APPENDIX-IV-A [SEE PROVISION TO RULE 8(6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/ charged to The Shriram Housing Finance Limited, The Physical possession of which have been taken by the Authorized Officer of Shriram Housing Finance Limited, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis in e-auction on 15.04.2023 between 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** for recovery of the balance due to "The Shriram Housing Finance Limited" from the Borrowers And Guarantors, as mentioned in the table. Details of Borrowers and Guarantors, amount due, Short Description of the immovable property and encumbrances known thereon, possession type, reserve price and earnest money deposit & increment are also given as:

Name of Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/Mortgagers	Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice	Description of Property	Reserve Price (Rs.) & Bid Increment	Earnest Money Deposit Details (EMD) Details.	Date & Time of Auction	Contact Person and Inspection date
1.MR. R MANJUNATH S/O RADHAKRISHNA, **2.MRS. VEDAVALLI PALANI, W/O R MANJUNATH,** **R/At. No. 8, 8th Main, Yamuna Nadi Road, K G Nagar, Gavipuram Extension, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560 019 And** **3. M/S. SM Fruits & Vegetables, Represented By Its Proprietor Mr. R Manjunath, Shop No. 13, Ground Floor, 8th Main, Yamuna Nadi Road, Brundavananagar, Bhuvaneshwari Colony, Bangalore – 560 019** **Date of Possession & Possession Type** 3rd February, 2022 Physical Possession **Encumbrances known** Not Known	Rs. 45,51,916/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakh Fifty One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixteen Only) as on 11.11.2021 in respect of Loan Account No. SHLHBGLR0001079 with further interest at the contractual rate, within 60 days from the receipt of said notice. Notice dated: 18.11.2021	**All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No. 9/A, Khatha No. 66/1, situated at Chunchaghatta Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore – 560062, presently under the limits of BBMP, measuring East to West 59 Feet and North to 22 + 21/2 Feet (towards Eastern side 22 Feet and towards Western side 21 Feet) in total measuring 1268.5 Sq and bounded on the: East By: Road, West By: Property belongs to Sri Nataraju, North By: Site No. 10, South By: Site No. 9.**	Rs. 46,00,000/- (Rupees Forty Six Lakhs Only) Bid Increment: Rs. 10,000/- and in such multiples. **Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (Rs.)** Rs. 4,60,000/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Sixty Thousand Only) **Last date for submission of EMD : 11th April 2023 Time 10.00 a.m. to 05.00 p.m.**	EMD amount to be deposited by way of RTGS/ NEFT to the account details mentioned herein below: **BANK NAME-** AXIS BANK LIMITED **BRANCH-** BANDRA KURLA COMPLEX, MUMBAI **BANK ACCOUNT NO-** Current Account No - 911020045677633 **IFSC CODE-** UTIB0000230	**15th April 2023 Time: 11.00 a.m. to 01.00 p.m.**	**Customer care: 022 -40081572** **Prashanth +919035211772** **Property Inspection Date: 5th April 2022 Time 11.00 a.m. to 04.00 p.m.**

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link http://shriramhousing.in/e-auction-Residential provided in the Shriram Housing Finance Limited website.

Place : Bangalore
Date : 27-03-2023

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Shriram Housing Finance Limited

PUNJAB & SIND BANK
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Brookefields Branch : No. 113/1B, ITPL Main Road, Bengaluru-560037.
Phone: 080-28543707
Email: b1067@psb.co.in

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for sale of immovable assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

E Auction Date &Time: 13.04.2023 at 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Last Date of EMD Submission: 12.04.2023 upto 4.00 PM
Property Inspection Date & Time: 11.04.2023 at 11.00 AM to 4.00 PM

Notice is hereby given to public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged/ charged to the secured creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Punjab & Sind Bank (secured creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis.

S. No.	Name and Address of the Borrower & Guarantors	Detail of Properties along with Boundaries	Demand Notice date U/s. 13(2) & Amount / Present Outstanding amount (secure Debt)	Minimum Reserve Price (Amt. in lacs) / EMD Amount / Bid increase amount	Authorized Officer	EMD submission A/C Details	Property inspection Date & Time	Last Date & time of EMD Submission / Status of Possession
1.	**M/s. Warm Gears Private Limited,** Plot no 11D and E, Hoskote Industrial Area, Chokkahalli Village, Hoskote Dist, Bengaluru Rural, Banaglore – 560114. **Guarantors: 1. Amit Rajput S/O Sh. Bhupinder Singh** **2. Anupam chauhan W/O Amit Rajput** Both are at : H.No Villa 8 Hibiscus Apartment, Sector 50 Gurgaon, Haryana – 122018. **3. M/S Warm Forgings Pvt. Ltd** Work Office: SP-238, B&C Industrial area, Kaharani Bhiwadi Extn, Rajastan – 301019 represented by its Director Mr. Amit Rajput	**All that piece and parcel of Property bearing no 11D and 11E, measuring 7965 sq. meters, situated at Hoskote Industrial Area, Chokkanahalli, Hoskote, Bangalore Dist, Karnataka – 560114. sale certificate dated 10.01.2013 registered as document No. HSK-1-09692/2012-13, stored in CD No. HSKD 338 dated 10.01.2013 in the sub-registrar, Hosakote, executed by Canara Bank, Bangalore in favour of M/S. Warm Forgings Private Limited. Bounded by : East by : KIADB road, West by : Plot no. 12K(P)-12J(P) & 12L(P), South by Plot no.11C and North by Plot no 11E(part)**	**Date 05/04/2021 and amount Rs. 8,19,80,650.59** **Rs.8,18,84,442.26 on 28.02.2023 plus further interest w.e.f 01.03.2023, costs, other charges and expense thereon.**	**Rs.1166.32 Lacs** / **Rs.116.63 Lacs** / **Rs.1.00 Lac**	**Shri. Nalin Kumar** Assistant General Manager Mob. No. 7814677778	A/C name- Sundry Cr-Funds/Assets A/C No. 10675039026001 IFSC Code- PSIB0021067 Branch Name- Brookefields, Bangalore	11.04.2023 11.00 am to 4.00 pm	12.04.2023- 4.00 pm / Symbolic possession

***NOTE:** The measurement of above property, however, be verified by the bidders at site and also from the records of the Revenue Authorities prior to participating in auction.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : For Detailed Terms and Conditions of auction, Visit our Bank's website **www.psbindia.com**

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) OF THE SARFAESI RULES, 2002

The borrower/guarantors are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

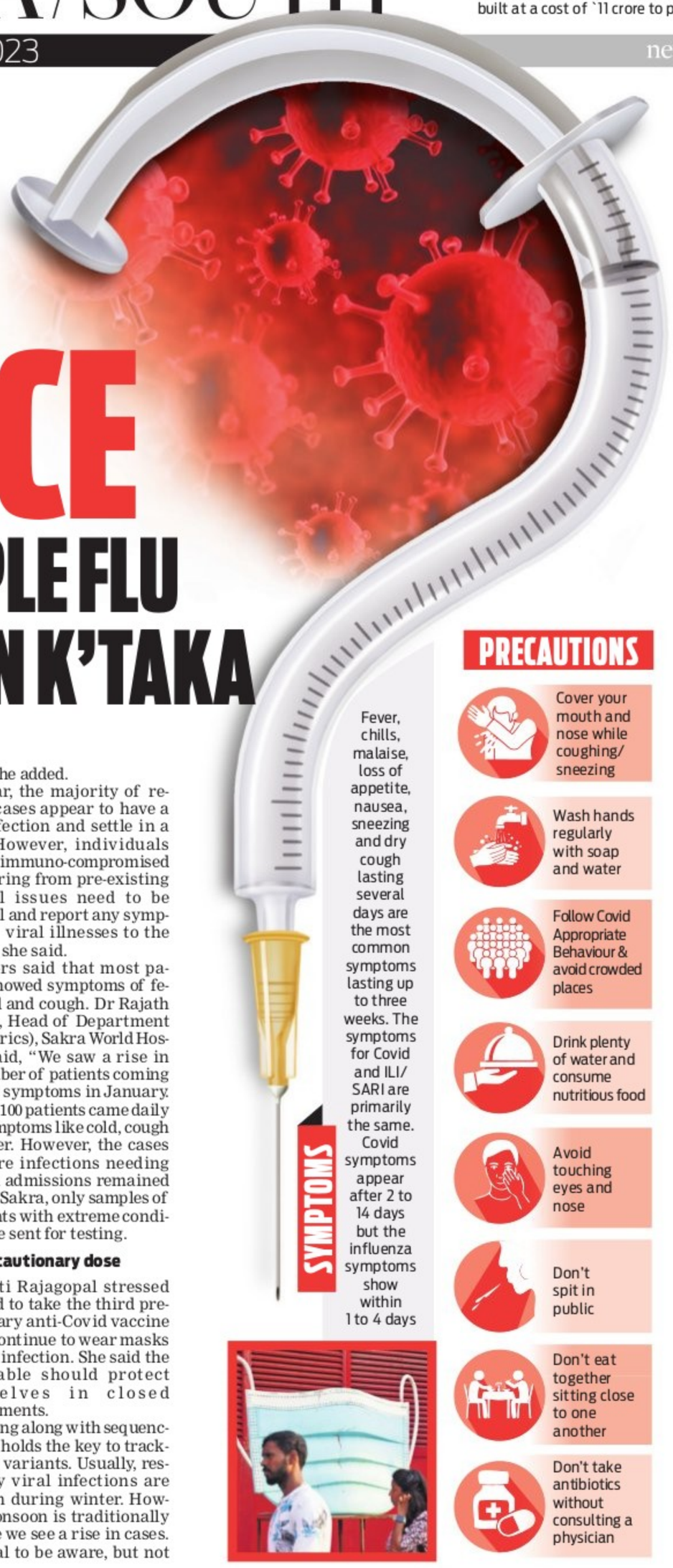
Date : 27.03.2023
Place : Bangalore

Authorized Officer

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

The feed mixing plant at Sri Venkateswara Goshala in Tirupati will become operational from March 31, TTD Joint Executive Officer (H&E) Sada Bhargavi said. She inspected the plant which is being built at a cost of `11 crore to provide fortified feed to the cattle

BIG PICTURE


PRECAUTIONS
Cover your mouth and nose while coughing/ sneezing
Wash hands regularly with soap and water
Follow Covid Appropriate Behaviour & avoid crowded places
Drink plenty of water and consume nutritious food
Avoid touching eyes and nose
Don't spit in public
Don't eat together sitting close to one another
Don't take antibiotics without consulting a physician
SYMPTOMS
Fever, chills, malaise, loss of appetite, nausea, sneezing and dry cough lasting several days are the most common symptoms lasting up to three weeks. The symptoms for Covid and ILI/ SARI are primarily the same. Covid symptoms appear after 2 to 14 days but the influenza symptoms show within 1 to 4 days

DANCE OF MULTIPLE FLU VIRUSES IN K'TAKA

AKNISREE KARTHIK & NAMRATA SINDWANI @ Bengaluru

EVER since the Covid pandemic hit the world, we have been hearing of multiple waves of the infection, even as SARS-CoV-2 virus continues to evolve. The XBB 1.16 variant is the latest addition and is said to be driving the recent surge in Covid cases. It has been marked a 'Variant of Concern' as it is said to be more transmissible and escapes immunity smartly. The alarming recent surge called for a high-level meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, to review the situation on March 23.

Influenza-like Infections (ILI) and Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI), especially Covid, H3N2 virus, H1N1 (Swine Flu) and the Adenovirus, have largely affected the population in Karnataka since January this year.

In the early weeks of January, when the weather was transitioning from winter to summer, both government and private-run hospitals saw an upsurge in flu-like cases among people of all age groups.

Health dept on high alert

The Karnataka Health Department, which has set off alarm bells, is on high alert. This is because after a lull, Covid cases in the state, especially in Bengaluru, have spiked. According to data from the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG), 349 samples were found with the XBB 1.16 variant from January to March. The central government's health information portal also showed that Karnataka saw over 70,000 ILI/SARI cases from January till now.

XBB 1.16 variant in circulation since January

The first case of the XBB 1.16 variant was reported in January. Karnataka is said to have recorded 61 cases of the variant and stands third in the country after Maharashtra and Telangana in the number of cases. The state health department has requested the Centre to augment the vaccine supplies. Doctors from the Bengaluru Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI) said that over the last few weeks, most positive cases were seen with the older Covid variants. But the recent spike in cases could be attributed to the new variant.

Namma Bengaluru and its sizeable Covid/ILI/SARI caseload

The Silicon City is contributing a sizable chunk to the state's Covid caseload. After many weeks, positive cases in the state crossed the 600-mark in March, registering an uptick in hospitalisations. From just 12 hospitalisations on March 1, they went up steadily to cross 600 cases. Bengaluru alone contributed over 400 active Covid cases with the positivity rate per week crossing 8 per cent. Three deaths were reported in March with patients having had a history of ILI and SARI.

The sudden rise in hospitalisations in Bengaluru, especially ICU admissions requiring ventilator support, triggered the health department to direct the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to take up a clinical audit to understand the reason for the spike. It also wanted the Palike to investigate if there is any co-infection (simultaneous infection) of H3N2 and Covid as both share similar respiratory infection signs and symptoms.

Dr MK Sudarshan, chairman, Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), said Karnataka has seen a high number of H3N2 and H1N1 cases along with Covid in the past two months. The Union Health Ministry data shows a similar spike in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. He said increasing ICU admissions are a concern. ILI/SARI viruses do not have the same qualities as SARS-COV-2 and do not cause any outbreak, he said. Intense testing will help study different viruses in infected people and allow the authorities to take preventative measures. The situation is not expected to spiral down in the coming weeks and the cases will decline after the summer fully sets in, he said.

Health experts said there is no need to worry about H3N2 and H1N1 viruses. They normally affect children below 15 years and senior citizens over 65. There is no cause for worry as most of the people have been treated as outpatients, they said.

Dr Lakshmipathy from KC General Hospital said most hospitals are not testing all the samples as it is practically not possible and is expensive. Most patients are treated for symptoms and only critical cases are admitted. This may have led to underreporting of cases, he added.

Health dept on vigil, no need to panic: Sudhakar

Health Minister Dr K Sudhakar said the health department is keeping a constant vigil on the spike and requested citizens not to panic but to take precautionary measures. Masks have been made mandatory for healthcare workers and all those working in hospitals.

On the influenza virus, health officials said testing has been increased and it has been made affordable. Since the anti-influenza vaccine is expensive and needs to be taken every year, the government has not added it in the universal immunisation programme. The influenza virus mutates quickly and the vaccine formulation has to be changed every year to cover maximum variants. The government has, however, said people should take the vaccine if they can afford it.

Mild infection settles in less than a week

Dr Swati Rajagopal, Consultant - Infectious Disease & Travel Medicine, Aster CMI Hospital, Bengaluru said it is more likely that Omicron offsprings - XBB 1.15 and XBB 1.16 - could be responsible for the rise in cases in the state. These variants reportedly have greater transmissibility and infectivity, she said and added that pre-existing immunity along with the vaccination status of the community could be important factors.

Covid-19, influenza A, B and sub-variant H3N2 among adults along with respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and adenovirus infections have been reported in the last month, she said. Influenza cases were not the focus over the last three years as the emphasis was on Covid, she added.

"So far, the majority of reported cases appear to have a mild infection and settle in a week. However, individuals who are immuno-compromised or suffering from pre-existing medical issues need to be watchful and report any symptoms of viral illnesses to the doctor," she said.

Doctors said that most patients showed symptoms of fever, cold and cough. Dr Rajath Athreja, Head of Department (Paediatrics), Sakra World Hospital, said, "We saw a rise in the number of patients coming with ILI symptoms in January. Around 100 patients came daily with symptoms like cold, cough and fever. However, the cases of severe infections needing hospital admissions remained low." At Sakra, only samples of inpatients with extreme conditions are sent for testing.

Get precautionary dose

Dr Swati Rajagopal stressed the need to take the third precautionary anti-Covid vaccine and to continue to wear masks to avoid infection. She said the vulnerable should protect themselves in closed environments.

"Testing along with sequencing still holds the key to tracking new variants. Usually, respiratory viral infections are common during winter. However, monsoon is traditionally the time we see a rise in cases. It is vital to be aware, but not panic. The basics of hand hygiene, cough etiquette, masks in crowded indoor areas, vaccination and testing still hold the key," she said.

Deaths due to the H3N2 virus

Karnataka reported the first death due to the H3N2 virus in India on March 10. An 87-year-old man from Hassan passed away on March 1. The state health department said he suffered from fever, cough and breathlessness, was asthmatic and had an acute kidney injury.

Health officials said the death occurred only due to the patient's old age and his comorbidities.

According to data from the Union Health Ministry, Karnataka has seen 16 H3N2 cases from January to March 2023 and 4,700 H1N1 cases from 2018 till March 2023. In all, 201 have been declared dead.

India's first Covid death was also reported in the state, that of a a 76-year-old man from Kalaburagi on March 10, 2020.

What are the ILIs to look out for (H3N2, H1N1, Adenovirus)

Seasonal flu/influenza is an infectious disease spread through the cough or sneeze of an infected person or through contact with droplets. The World Health Organisation (WHO) defines ILI as an acute respiratory infection with a measured fever of 38 degrees Celsius or more and a cough lasting ten days. SARI cases are similar to ILI, but the need for hospitalisation is higher.

The disease is self-limiting and lasts five to seven days and has low morbidity and mortality rates. Infants, elderly, pregnant women and those on long-term medication, particularly steroids, are at higher risk.

What is XBB 1.16? Should you worry?

XBB 1.16 is a recombinant lineage of the virus and belongs to one of the many XBB lineages of Covid that is currently in circulation in India and abroad. The new variant is highly contagious and is said to evade immunity. Experts opined that the XBB 1.16 variant which causes symptoms like a blocked nose, sore throat, headache, fever, muscle pain and others lasts up to four days. Doctors said patients get cured without any major treatment and need for hospitalisation. However, they cautioned people against letting their guard down and said that those with co-morbid conditions and the elderly should take extra precautions.

Actor, ex-MP Innocent passes away

ENS @ Kochi

VETERAN actor Innocent, who had been undergoing treatment at a private hospital in Kochi since Mrch 3 for breathing issues, passed away Sunday night following multiple organ failure and a heartattack. He was 75.

Versatility was his second name. The remarkable ease with which Innocent portrayed roles, from comedian to villain, in over 500 movies in a career spanning over four decades is testament to it. The thespian effortlessly donned the role of an organiser, politician and a parliamentarian in the final decade of his life. He represented Chalakkudy in the Lok Sabha as a CPM-backed independent from 2014 to 19, and was the president of the Association of Malayalam Movie Artists for years.

Heavy lift: ISRO places 36 sats into orbit

SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA @ Chennai

THE Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Sunday successfully placed 36 commercial satellites into orbit, and arguably the heaviest payload carried in a single mission till date from Indian shores. With this, NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), the commercial arm of ISRO, has successfully executed its contract to launch 72 satellites of OneWeb into low earth orbit. The first batch of 36 satellites were launched last year.

This also means that Bharti Enterprise-backed OneWeb Group based in UK completes its first generation (Gen-1) low earth orbit (LEO) constellation, allowing it to offer broadband internet services in every corner of the world. OneWeb confirmed the acquisition of signals from all 36 satellites

The rocket, which will be used for the ambitious Gaganyaan mission, lifted off from Sriharikota at 9am as scheduled. It gained the required altitude of 450km in about nine minutes and began injecting the satellites in the 20th minute. The C25 (cryogenic upper stage) performed sophisticated maneuver to orient itself to inject satellites into precise orbits. 36 satellites were separated in nine phases, in batches of four.

ISRO's LVM3 carrying 36 satellites lifts off from Satish Dhawan Space Station, in Sriharikota on Sunday | TWITTER

ISRO chairman S Somanath expressed his happiness over the consecutive successful flight of LVM3 and thanked NSIL for the opportunity and the confidence OneWeb team had in ISRO.

"I congratulate ISRO for making LVM3 rugged and demonstrating its capabilities of launching large, heavy payloads into the right orbit without any glitches. We look forward to greater engagement with commercial partners for making this rocket one of the best in its class," he said and thanked the government for the support and approvals for the missions.

NSIL CMD D Radhakrishnan termed Sunday's launch momentous. "Having a repeat performance of any launcher is not an easy thing to do. A special thing seen in this mission is using cryogenic stage to do such a complex manoeuvre to meet OneWeb's requirement. We are happy to be part of OneWeb's journey and want to reassure them that NSIL will continue to engage to meet any other requirement."

OneWeb said its constellation as on date is 618 satellites. The design calls for 588 satellites for global coverage and additional satellites are planned for resiliency and redundancy. "Thanks to today's successful launch the constellation is in place to soon deliver global services. By the year-end, OneWeb will be ready to roll out global coverage," the company said.

In a statement, Sunil Bharti Mittal, executive chairman of OneWeb, said, "Today's launch represents a major step towards closing the digital divide. OneWeb's global constellation will play a pivotal role in realising this dream."

Lt Gen (retd) AK Bhatt, director-general, Indian Space Association, said the completion of last leg of the first-generation LEO constellation of 600+ satellites by OneWeb has set a significant benchmark for the entire Indian space industry in downstream application of satellite communication in India. This launch is a significant milestone for India to move towards benefiting from remarkable capabilities of LEO connectivity and the spread of space-based internet.

"This will surely aid in addressing the issue of low fixed broadband penetration and bridge the digital divide in the country's most remote areas. We are excited about the potential it holds and the positive impact it will have on our nation's aspirations for digital transformation," he added.

Members of a forum protest against police atrocity at Tripunithura | A SANESH

'Hit' by Kochi cop, dad of two dies in custody

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kochi

WITHIN an hour of being picked up by the police, a father of two children died at Tripunithura Hill Palace police station on Saturday night after he was allegedly slapped by a policeman, resulting in an huge outcry from the public. Another eyewitness said that a policeman hit the victim with a helmet.

Manoharan Chathanvelil (53), was a native of Irumbanam, who was declared dead at the Ernakulam Medical Trust. Eyewitnesses said Chathanvelil, who ran a small shop in Manjummel, was dragged to the police station although he was neither riding his bike in an inebriated state nor was he overspeeding.

Lambasted by various quarters, sub-inspector Jimmy Jose, who allegedly hit Chathanvelil, was suspended.

"Police asked him to stop but Chathanvelil was unable to do it immediately. He stopped a few meters ahead of a police vehicle. However, he came back to the vehicle. A police officer asked why he did not stop the bike. When he removed his helmet, an officers slapped him," said Rema Devi, who saw the incident unravel in front of her house.

"Police subjected him to a breath-analyser test," said Rama, and found he was not drunk. Chathanvelil was shivering after being slapped by the officer, she said, adding that the police asked him to board the vehicle, in which others were also seated.

Girija Sasikumar, another eyewitness, said the policeman hit Chathanvelil with his helmet.The FIR shows that Chathanvelil collapsed around 9.30 pm at the Hill Palace police station, and he was taken to a nearby Tripunithura Taluk Hospital, from where he was taken to the Ernakulam Medical Trust, where he was declared dead at 10pm.

Kochi City top cop K Sethu Raman admitted the officer's action was inappropriate, and "no police personnel has permission to slap a civilian. Manoharan was not found drunk driving. A DySP of the city crime branch will investigate into the incident."

Kayaking & canoeing demo at Benniganahalli Lake to exhort girls

ENS @ Bengaluru

IN order to encourage children, especially girls from underprivileged backgrounds to pursue kayaking, the Benniganahalli Lake Trust and the Karnataka Kayaking and Canoeing Association organised a kayaking demo on the Benniganahalli Lake.

The demo saw over 300 people spending their Sunday mornings, learning how to kayak up and down the lake. "The objective is to spread awareness. A lot of people usually go for more conventional sports like cricket or football, but sports like these can prove beneficial, especially as they are easily accessible to poor children," said Balaji Ragotham Bali, a lake activist and one of the lake's trustees. This is the second such demo at a Bengaluru lake.

Earlier, a similar demo took place at the Yele Mallappa Shetty lake in KR Puram where hundreds of people had participated. "On Sunday, as well, there was a very good response as many were unaware of the sport. For underprivileged girls, especially, it is very hard to garner interest due to a lack of awareness. Several NGOs are also willing to sponsor training cost, however, these are rarely taken up," he said.

EDITORIAL

My motivation comes from playing the game I love. If I wasn't paid to be a professional footballer I would willingly play for nothing

Lionel Messi

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

STRONG GOVT ACTION A MUST TO SAVE JUMBOS FROM ELECTROCUTION

March brought much joy to India, especially Tamil Nadu when the documentary *The Elephant Whisperers* won an Academy Award. The movie follows a tribal couple named Bomman and Bellie, employed by the state forest department, who successfully raise two abandoned elephant calves. The film's production was aided by the state forest department and threw light on some of TN's successes with wild elephants. However, March has also brought home uglier truths about the state of wild elephants in TN. This month alone, five elephants have died of electrocution in the state, three in a single encounter with an illegal electric fence put up by a farmer. An RTI reply showed that 82 elephants died of electrocution in TN from 2012–13 to 2021–22. What *The Elephant Whisperers* only touches on briefly is that humans have crept into the spaces of these gentle giants, causing pain and suffering to both sides of a needless conflict.

While the state did initiate the process to check illegal usage of the permitted solar fences, in the aftermath of the deaths, its compliance with National Board of Wildlife guidelines to prevent deaths of wild animals by electrocution has been minimal at best, as per data available with *TNIE*. Forest and electricity officials are supposed to undertake regular joint inspections in forests and adjoining areas. Action should be taken against landowners using illegal electric fences. Power cables are meant to be insulated and run underground. Electric poles are supposed to be surrounded by spiked guards to fend off wild animals. Data available with *TNIE* suggests compliance is minimal, at best. Both departments have been pulled up by the Madras High Court, which has summoned the power corporation's chairman and the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests to explain in person on April 19 why its orders have not been complied with.

It cannot be denied that the state forest department has been successful on several fronts, including the conservation of wild elephants. Yet it cannot rest on its laurels. Indeed, the tragic deaths have wiped away the joy brought by the Academy Award. Instead, it is time for the government to put its money where its mouth is and allocate sufficient funds to ensure compliance with necessary guidelines and prevent more tragedies.

RBI MUST ASSESS IMPACT BEFORE RATE CHANGE

Markets are sweating bullets over a global banking crisis, but central banks continue to keep an eagle eye on inflation. The string of rate hikes this week by the US Federal Reserve, followed by European policymakers including the UK, Norway, Switzerland and Sweden, confirms that, for now, inflation remains the chief destroyer of all global economic ills. Such steadfastness relegates the ongoing struggles of banks and financial institutions due to rising interest rates as pretty harmless and mostly market imagination. According to a Reuters calculation, ten developed economies have raised rates by 3,290 bps, or a staggering 33%, in this cycle that began last year. Trendsetter US even saw the steepest hikes in over four decades. Such aggressive tightening only implies that the biggest challenge will be ensuring that rate hikes don't destroy economic growth or employment. Fine-tuning policy rates isn't as easy as it sounds, and precisely for this reason, they are considered a blunt tool. Regardless of the central bankers' assurances, avoiding a rolling recession, where the downturn affects sectors unequally, is as good as believing that the best weatherman can stop the storm.

Global oil prices are moderating, and accordingly, the medium-term inflation outlook for most economies is expected to ease. It means external cost pressures are waning, but domestic wage-price pressures remain elevated, forcing central banks to maintain their vigil on prices, tight labour market conditions, wage growth and services inflation. Another major source of uncertainty includes the pass-through of global shocks and their unwinding. For instance, the unprecedented sequence of domestic and global shocks makes it challenging to distinguish supply-demand imbalances triggered by the pandemic and energy crisis from persistent, self-sustained inflationary dynamics, as the European Central Bank noted.

Like others, the RBI, too, is caught between the risk of underreacting and overreacting to the inflationary dynamics. Given it declared its intent to remain data-dependent more than once, RBI must urgently shift its policy stance to neutral, which helps avoid pre-committing rate hikes or cuts. It should assess the impact of its tightening, which is acutely being felt on outstanding housing loans and others. To note the central banking's separation principle, delivering the appropriate policy stance shouldn't come at the cost of impairing its transmission.

QUICK TAKE

THE COST OF FREE HEALTH

Rajasthan is the first state to declare the right to health to all at public and select private hospitals—free OPD and IPD services, diagnostics and medicine. The government will reimburse private hospitals if patients fail to pay for attending to emergency cases. A good scheme that India needs, too, the right being intrinsic to the right to life. But the public welfare concept must be based on a public-private partnership with financial obligations mutually agreed upon. Else, hospitals feel insecure over delayed reimbursements. Doctors, fighting bullying, can face more threats and worry about future earnings in financially stretched private hospitals.

The substantive issue is whether such a law, which results in disqualification of a Member of Parliament, requires to be amended to provide safeguards to a sitting member

RAHUL DEFAMATION CASE: AMEND LAW TO PROTECT MPs, MLAs

KAPIL SIBAL

Senior lawyer and member of Rajya Sabha

SOUMYADIP SINHA

Rahul Gandhi's speech in Kolar, Karnataka, led to his conviction by a Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) in Surat, Gujarat. He was sentenced for two years in a proceeding for criminal defamation. The process which led to his conviction and the conviction itself have raised issues that need to be addressed both from the point of view of law and politics.

Before delving into any of these issues, let us first understand what Rahul Gandhi said on April 13, 2019, while addressing a rally in Karnataka: "I have a question. Why do all of them—all of these thieves—have Modi Modi Modi in their names? Nirav Modi, Lalit Modi, Narendra Modi. And if we search a bit more, many more such Modis will come out."

For what he said, a former Gujarat minister and BJP MLA, Purnesh Modi, chose to prosecute him for criminal defamation on April 16, 2019. On the face of it, the statement cannot be regarded as an affront to the entire "Modi community". Rahul Gandhi merely asked why all those alleged "thieves" have "Modi" attached to their names. Nirav Modi and Lalit Modi are known to be on the government's radar. Both have chosen not to come back to India. Rahul Gandhi did not say that every Modi is a thief. He only asked why "these thieves" have "Modi" attached to their names. Any conviction on the basis that Rahul Gandhi defamed the entire "Modi community" is suspect. Besides, there is no such identifiable "Modi community" which could be aggrieved by what Rahul Gandhi said.

Rahul Gandhi appeared for the first time before the CJM's court in Surat on June 24, 2021, to record his statement in person. In March 2022, the complainant requested that Rahul Gandhi be summoned again. The court, rejecting the request, insisted that the complainant proceed to address the court on the merits of the case. Interestingly, the complainant rushed to the high court and sought a stay of the proceedings before the trial court. On March 7, 2022, the trial was stayed. It is rare that a complainant, who seeks to prosecute, rushes to the high court to have the trial stayed unless he believes that there is little likelihood of his succeeding before the trial court.

The trial remained stayed for about a year. Curiously, the complainant withdrew his petition before the high court. Immediately thereafter, the trial resumed on February 27, 2023; this time, before another CJM, H H Varma. In between, Rahul Gandhi had been targeting a particular businessman, who has become the subject of controversy for his phenomenal rise as a businessman, and the wealth his companies have accumulated is allegedly attributed to his proximity to the prime minister. On March 8, 2023, Rahul Gandhi's counsel challenged the locus of Purnesh Modi, claiming that Rahul Gandhi's impugned speech targeted individuals and not the so-called "Modi community". The quick withdrawal of proceedings in the high court, resumption of the trial, timing of the proceedings and sudden hearing of the matter raises questions, which in time, may perhaps be answered.

Admittedly, Rahul Gandhi does not reside in Gujarat. Criminal defamation should, if at all, have been filed in Karnataka. Purnesh Modi chose Surat perhaps with the expectation that he would be able to persuade the CJM to convict Rahul Gandhi. The procedure to be followed in matters where persons reside outside the jurisdiction of the court requires the magistrate to hold an inquiry before issuance of summons or for the CJM to direct an investigation. Neither was done. Besides, the Supreme Court itself has frowned upon using criminal defamation as a measure of harassment.

The substantive issue is whether such a law, which results in disqualification of a Member of Parliament, requires to be amended to provide safeguards to a sitting member. Even in the context of corrupt practices indulged in by candidates during electoral processes, the law allows the candidate to file an appeal but does not allow disqualification before the decision in the appeal. One can understand an MP or MLA being deprived of his membership if he is convicted for the offence of murder, which might visit him with a sentence of life imprisonment, or such other offences which are serious in nature for which the sentence provided is more than seven years. There, too, the law must provide for an opportunity to the convicted candidate to seek stay of conviction within a certain period, during which his or her membership of the House should not be subjected to disqualification.

An ordinance in 2013 sought to provide for a period of 90 days within which the convicted MP or MLA can seek stay of conviction to protect his or her seat in Parliament or Legislative Assembly. The ordinance did not become law and consequently, there are no safeguards for MPs or MLAs being convicted on the basis of frivolous cases. Recently, Abdullah Azam Khan lost his seat in the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly pursuant to being convicted for a period of two years on the ground that he along with his father, Azam Khan, violated Section 353 and other provisions of the Indian Penal Code by sitting on *dharna* on a state highway in January 2008, thereby deterring the public servants from discharging their duty.

In case of Rahul Gandhi, the magistrate knew that any sentence of less than two years would have saved his membership of the Lok Sabha. The law needs to be amended. Not protecting an MP or MLA for a frivolous conviction like the one in the Rahul Gandhi case is grossly unjust. Today and since 2014, laws are being used for political ends and to settle political scores. That is a matter of concern not just with reference to Rahul Gandhi alone. Democracy can be subverted in many ways. Throwing out elected governments is one such way. Using judicial processes is another.

(Views are the writer's)
(Tweets @KapilSibal)

HOW RAMA-NESS HOLDS GOOD TODAY

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

This year, Rama Navami falls on March 30, giving us another opportunity to recall some endearing points about Sri Rama as we, the common people, know him, far away from politics. I take my cues from the "root Ramayana" of Sage Valmiki and would like to retell some of my impressions.

We learn early on that Rama has dark curls on his forehead and a glossy dark-brown complexion. Hanuman later describes Rama to Sita as having 'coppery eyes' of a gleaming golden-brown, broad shoulders and strong arms.

According to Valmiki, the seventh avatar of Vishnu did not know his divinity while in mortal form. He says, "I am only the son of King Dasaratha." Yet there is an occasion when he "forgets" and behaves like the god he actually is. That is when he cremates Jatayu in the jungle and declares, "I am sending you straight to Heaven." It is a tantalising slip that we are meant to grasp the significance of ourselves.

The epic begins with a list of sixteen good qualities that Sage Narada seeks in an ideal man. Lord Brahma tells him that Rama is that person. As the story proceeds, it is by Rama's reactions in deed and word that we obtain impressions of his Rama-ness. A glimpse of what Rama is like at merely seventeen comes from the citizens of Ayodhya. When Dasaratha asks his subjects what they feel about Rama becoming the crown prince, there is a roar of approval. His subjects are so happy that Dasaratha thinks, "They love him more than they love me."

The people say of Rama, "He speaks lovingly to everyone and his words have never been false. He respects elders and wise people. He is genuinely interested in the welfare of others. When out riding, he stops and talks to the man on the street. He readily forgives and forgets a wrong but remembers even the smallest nice thing that anybody ever did for him. He is well-read and well-mannered. He is a *drapi*, angry only when rightfully required and in the right proportion."

We get to gauge Rama's nature further when the big tests come. For one, his lack of greed, when he promptly accepts being exiled. Secondly, his forgiving nature, when he meets Kaikeyi at Chitrakoot. Despite the great wrong she has done to him, he behaves well with her and tells Sita and Lakshmana to do the same.

Thirdly, his democratic gift of making friends with people of all classes. He impulsively hugs Guha the boatman and Hanuman. Be it his own people, great sages in the forest, a motley crew of Vanaras given to carousing, a person of superior intellect like Hanuman or an *asura* prince like Vibhishana, Rama attracts affection and support just by being himself—open and friendly.

Fourthly, Rama loves deeply and does not deny his pain. Moved by the beauty of Lake Pampa, he laments aloud for lost Sita. During the weary wait through the monsoon before the search for Sita can resume, he is thoroughly homesick for Ayodhya and does not hold back from saying so. From Rama, we learn that it is not at all unmanly to feel and express pain.

Rama is thoroughly homesick for Ayodhya and does not hold back from saying so. From Rama, we learn that it is not at all unmanly to feel and express pain

In sum, a picture emerges of a person who feels things deeply but tries to do his best through setback after setback while sticking to his values, and without losing consideration for others. That, I feel, is his real Rama-ness.

Like many others, I grew up deeply upset that Rama sent Sita away, but over the years I discovered that scholars say of the last book, *Uttara Kandam*, that it is *prakshipta*, a later interpolation, not Valmiki's work. This makes sense for it does not match the Rama we know from the first six books.

The manner in which the three make their home in exile can be a lesson to us all. It is in the *Valmiki Ramayana 3:15 (Aranya Kandam, Sarga 15)*. They arrive in the "flowering forest" of Panchavati in a green valley by the Godavari, with mountains all around. They're looking for a place to build a little hermitage. Rama notes the ideal location of a woodland glade full of flowering creepers and shrubs, with a lotus pond. It is conveniently by the banks of the river, on which they see swans and *chakravaka* birds just as Rishi Agastya told them they would.

Rama observes that the mineral streaks in the mountains catch the light and gleam like the oval vents in the houses and buildings back in Ayodhya, or like the ceremonially painted hides of the royal elephants in the Ikshvaku stables.

Sita, who loves gardens and parks, finds the air sweet with the scent of golden champaka flowers. Her favourites are the karnikara and the ashoka. Rama is delighted to see many kinds of trees—sal, tamal, jackfruit, mango, date palm, shami and kimshuka. He turns to sturdy Lakshmana and says, "Will you make a *parna-shala*, a thatched cottage, for us here?"

He doesn't give Lakshmana a single order, nor does Sita tell him to do this or that. Lakshmana gets to work, raising a high clay floor, making strong pillars of bamboo for the clay walls, rafters of shami branches and a snug thatch of *kusa* and *kasa*, grass and leaves.

The cottage is so tactfully built that it thrills Rama and Sita. Rama is so moved that he hugs Lakshmana and says, "It's like father is back", meaning Lakshmana has shown so much love and care in making the cottage that Rama, grieving for his father, feels comforted.

As family situations go, it seems to be about giving each other space and, in turn, doing our thoughtful best for each other. Valmiki is subtle like that. He creates touching incidents in which we may appreciate the nuances ourselves, which are satisfyingly modern in this case, and make us further appreciate Rama's personality. Indeed, there is so much more to say about Sri Rama, perhaps another time.

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MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Punjab politics

Apropos of *Save Sikh patriotism from Khalistan conspirators* (Mar 26). The writer has said: "Taking advantage of the AAP government's inexperience and inefficiency, Amritpal and his cronies have unleashed a poisonous campaign to create a Hindu-Sikh divide in Punjab." Khalistanis covertly/overtly supported AAP with the tacit understanding that when the party came to power in Punjab, it would give a free run to Khalistanis. Prabhu Chawla wants to shift the blame to Akali Dal for supporting the Khalistanis.
Hemanth D Pai, Bengaluru

Extremist elements

Prabhu Chawla is right when he calls for isolation of extreme elements. Sikhs naturally have nationalistic feelings enshrined in their hearts. However, it is also true that a few elements have the potential to destabilise the unity with their nefarious activities as we have seen in the Bhindranwale era. Political parties must eschew their petty politics and try to create an environment of peace.
Jitendranath Guru, Padampur

Boxing stars

Apropos of *Nitu on top of the worlds* (Mar 26). Kudos to boxers Nitu and Saweety for winning gold medals during the World Championships. This is a manifestation of the prowess of Indian women and inspires Indian sports talents.
Jayashree Thampi, Thiruvananthapuram

Higher education

Apropos of *Higher education to move from recognition to realisation* (Mar 26). Enthusiastic young teachers are harassed by senior teachers who lack the vision to understand creativity. The interaction between Indian and international academic institutions will broaden the thinking of these run-of-the-mill persons.
P Prema, Thanjavur

Junk food

Apropos of *People consuming junk food regularly suffer from digestive issues: Survey* (Mar 26). Considering that junk food causes so many serious health problems, why couldn't the Central and state governments pass strict orders to stop supplying junk food in factories, offices, colleges, etc?
P Victor Selvaraj, Palayamkottai

LDF's administration

The editorial *Crimes against women: Lax Kerala must wake up* (Mar 25) was a timely reminder to the LDF government, whose quality of administration is getting worse by the day. Lately, things are taken for granted. The colossal Brahmapuram waste yard disaster is a classic example.
Geetha B K, Mangaluru

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TWEETS OF THE DAY

Sanjay Singh @SanjayAzadSln
Soon after joining BJP, big corrupts become polite. BJP's slogan is "the bigger the corruption, the better the post"

Mamata Banerjee @MamataOfficial
Marvellous! Heartiest congratulations to @NituGhanghas333 for winning the Gold Medal at IBA Women's World Boxing Championships

Randeep Singh Surjewala @rssurjewala
Instead of befooling communities – Lingayats, Vokkaligas, Minorities, SC, ST – Bommai & Modi Govts should revisit the 50% ceiling on reservations

Only 166 aspirants from ST recruited to civil services in 5 yrs

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

AMID claims about efforts being made to increase the representation of officers belonging to SC and ST communities in all-India civil services, only 166 candidates from Schedule Tribes, 340 from Schedule Caste and 695 from OBCs have been recruited to India's three prominent categories of civil services in five years.

Sharing details of the appointments made to all-India services, such as the IAS, IPS and Indian Forest Service, the government said that 2,163 recruitments have been made since 2018 to 2022 for IAS. Among them, 68 candidates belonging to ST and 140 to SCs have been recruited for IAS.

According to official data, 288 OBC candidates were recruited in five years among total 2,163 recruitments made for the IAS.

Similarly, the government recruited 1,403 candidates of different categories for IPS from 2018 to 2022 through the UPSC. But among the total IPS recruitments, only 62 ST and 129 SC candidates were recruited in addition to the recruitment of 229 OBC candidates.

A senior official said a total of 799 candidates were recruited for Indian Forest Service from 2018 to 2022, including only 36 ST candidates, 71 SC and 178 OBC candidates during the last five years.

In total, 166 ST, 340 SC and 695 OBC candidates have been recruited for IAS, IPS and forest service in five years.

For Forest Services, 799 hired from 2018 to 2022

A senior official said a total of 799 candidates were recruited for Indian Forest Service from 2018 to 2022, including only 36 ST candidates, 71 SC and 178 OBC candidates during the last five years

Panel for changes in civil services exam schedule

Wants UPSC to examine the reasons for low turnout of candidates

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

THE parliamentary standing committee on personnel, public grievances, law and justice in a report has asked the UPSC to reduce the civil services exam's selection cycle.

In its recommendations, the panel has also asked the UPSC to examine the reasons for a low turnout of candidates in civil services exams conducted to recruit officers of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Foreign Service (IFS) and Indian Police Service (IPS).

Citing data provided by the UPSC, the report says the average time taken for civil services exam from the date of issuance of the notification to the date of declaration of the final result is nearly 15 months. "The committee is of the opinion that the duration of any recruitment examination should not ordinarily exceed six months as the protracted recruitment cycle waste prime years of a candidate's life besides taking a heavy toll on their physical and mental health. The committee, accordingly, recommends that UPSC should take steps to reduce the duration of the recruitment cycle significantly without compromising the quality," the report said.

The report has said that out of around 32.39 lakh candidates who applied the exams in 2022-23, only 16.82 lakh candidates (51.95%) appeared. The report said that 11.35 lakh candidates applied for the civil services exams in 2022. Out of them, only 5.73 lakh candidates (50.51 per cent) appeared for the tests. The committee recommended constituting an expert committee to assess if the present tests provides an equal opportunity to both English-medium-educated urban candidates and non-English medium-educated rural candidates.

House Panel's Recommendations

Report says it takes 15 months to declare final results of UPSC exams

It recommends the exam cycle should be reduced to 6 months

It also notes that out of 32.39 lakh candidates who applied for exams in 22-23, only 52% appeared

It wants a panel to assess if the present scheme of recruitment provides equal opportunity to English-medium- urban candidates and non-English medium rural aspirants

SHAHID FARIDI
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Email: shahid@newindianexpress.com

POWER GAMES

Political Crossfire

MAHUA-NISHIKANT PUBLIC SPAT MAY GET UGLIER

Firebrand Trinamool Congress Member of Parliament Mahua Moitra and BJP MP Nishikant Dubey's social media battle is refusing to end. The two leaders have been engaged in a public exchange of insults for the last few weeks. Angry over Dubey's constant sniping at her and her party, Mahua tweeted "People who live in glass houses should not throw stones. And people who have fake degrees and have lied on affidavits should definitely not throw the rule book." Along with the tweet, she posted Dubey's two affidavits submitted before returning officers along with his nomination paper for the 2009 and 2014 Lok Sabha elections. "Hon'ble member in his 2009 and 2014 Lok Sabha affidavits claimed to be a 'part-time MBA from Delhi University'..." Mahua tweeted, and then added in another tweet "on 27.08.2020 Delhi University in a written reply clearly stated that no such with the name of the honourable member was either admitted or passed out from any MBA programme in DU in the year 1993 as claimed in affidavits..." Along with this tweet, she attached a letter dated 28.07.2020 from Dean of the Faculty of Management Studies (FMS) of Delhi University (DU) stating that no person with the name Nishikant Dubey was admitted or passed out from FMS of the DU. She then went to ask the Lok Sabha Speaker on twitter whether "lying on affidavit and faking an MBA degree from DU's FMS... are grounds for termination of Lok Sabha membership". This was followed by nasty WhatsApp messages widely circulated in Lutyens Delhi attacking a "firebrand woman MP". The anonymous messages contained wild allegations and sleazy stories about the woman MP. After the Whatsapp messages surfaced, Mahua tweeted "Farji degree holders do not make great WhatsApp fake letter writers. Nor do their Me-Too mates. Maa Kali always rules." Dubey responded to the attack by tweeting a request to his supporters not to respond to a "woman MP from West Bengal having a perverted mentality" because "in our religion, even the nagar vadhu of Vaishali was given respect". This led to a huge outrage against Dubey with a large number of prominent women, including Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate, taking exception to Dubey's tweet. Sources said a new 48-page file has now emerged, which has explosive details about one of the two squabbling MPs. The fight between the two is far from over. Keep watching this space for more on this.

Battle for Delhi

KANHAIYA KUMAR TO PLAY PIVOTAL ROLE IN CONGRESS

The Congress is planning to deploy a large number of young leaders in key positions to lead its campaign against the ruling BJP. Sources said former president of the Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union Kanhaiya Kumar is set to be appointed either as the president of the Indian Youth Congress, the youth wing of the Congress, or the president of the Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee. According to sources, the party has not been impressed with the performance of DPCC chief Anil Choudhary, who may be on his way out. Kanhaiya's name is being discussed as the party feels he could attract Delhi's large population from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The BJP, too, had experimented with a 'Purabiya' (easterner) leader by appointing Manoj Tiwari as its Delhi unit president. The Aam Aadmi Party also has a large number of Purabiya leaders namely Sanjay Singh, Manish Sisodia, Gopal Rai, etc. Though the most successful Congress leader in Delhi – Sheila Dikshit – had a UP connection, the party has not given its reins in the hands of a true blue Purabiya and has instead favoured a Jat, Punjabi, Vaish or a Gujar as its state unit chief. This is now set to change, sources said.

No details available on offshore shell companies owned by Indians: Govt

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

AMID Congress leader Rahul Gandhi upping the ante on "offshore companies linked to the Adani group", the government told the Rajya Sabha that data or details regarding offshore shell companies owned by Indian citizens are not available and an offshore shell company is not defined in the Acts administered by the Ministry of Finance.

Minister of State for Finance, Pankaj Chaudhary said, "It is submitted that an offshore shell company is not defined in the Acts administered by the Ministry of Finance. Data/details regarding offshore shell companies owned by Indian citizens are not available."

He was replying to a question by CPM M P John Brittas on the details of offshore shell companies whose Ultimate Beneficial Ownership (UBO) is held by Indian citizens, and the action taken by the government.

The minister, however, said the government has undertaken a few exchanges of information mechanism for the administration of taxation and enforcement laws for various purposes which may include offshore companies.

The minister also said that "the Directorate of Enforcement takes necessary action as per the provisions of the relevant Acts whenever there is any contravention under FEMA, and an offense under PMLA, or a warrant of arrest is issued by the Magistrate or Court after taking cognizance of any offense appended to Fugitive Economic Offenders Act, 2018 (FEOA) and where the amount involved is Rs 100 crores or above, provided the accused has gone outside India."

Replying to the question on the actions taken against those Indian citizens whose names were revealed through Panama Paper, Pandora Paper, Paradise Paper, and other leaks, the government said that more than 250 India-linked entities have been identified in Pandora Paper Leaks, It also stated that undisclosed income of more than Rs 13,800 crore has been brought to tax (as on December 31) under the Panama and Paradise paper leaks cases.

On deposits made in unreported foreign bank accounts in HSBC cases, the minister said that undisclosed income of more than Rs 8,468 crore has been brought to tax, and a penalty of over Rs 1,294 crore has been levied. "As of 31.12.2022, assessments under the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015 have been completed in 408 cases, raising a tax demand of over Rs 15,664 crores," it said.

Offshore shell firms not defined in Acts: Minister

Minister of State for Finance, Pankaj Chaudhary said, "It is submitted that an offshore shell company is not defined in the Acts administered by the Ministry of Finance. Data/details regarding offshore shell companies owned by Indian citizens are not available." He was replying to a question by CPM M P John Brittas on the details of offshore shell companies whose Ultimate Beneficial Ownership (UBO) is held by Indian citizens, and the action taken by the government.

Act against Khalistanis, India tells Canadian High Commissioner

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

THE High Commissioner of Canada to India was summoned by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Saturday to convey the nation's concern about the actions of separatist and extremist elements against India's diplomatic mission and consulates in Canada this week.

"The Government of India sought an explanation on how such elements were allowed, in the presence of police, to breach the security of our diplomatic mission and consulates. The Government of Canada was reminded of its obligations under the Vienna Convention, and asked to arrest and prosecute the individuals who have already been identified as being involved in such acts," according to the MEA.

India said it hoped that the Canadian government will take necessary steps to ensure the safety of Indian diplomats and the security of diplomatic premises so that they are able to fulfill their normal diplomatic functions.

Khalistani supporters have been trying to vandalise Indian missions in the UK, US, Australia and Canada and India has been taking a strong view of the same. Canada is home to one of the largest populations of Sikh outside India.

Last Sunday, an event scheduled to be attended by the Indian envoy to Canada was cancelled due to concerns following a protest by Khalistan supporters.

Journalist Sameer Kaushal, who was at the venue to cover the protest, was also reportedly assaulted.

Meanwhile, another journalist was assaulted by the protesters outside the Indian embassy in Washington DC on Saturday. Lalit K Jha, a correspondent with the Press Trust of India, was covering the protest when he was attacked.

"We have seen disturbing visuals of a senior Indian journalist from the Press Trust of India being abused, threatened and assaulted physically while covering the so-called 'Khalistan protest' in Washington DC earlier today," the Indian embassy in Washington said in a statement.

More Indians donated organs after Covid eased

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

INDIA, third in the world for living organ donation and transplantation, saw more people coming forward to donate organs, primarily to their family members, in 2022 when Covid-19 cases started seeing a dip.

In 2020, the living organ donation figure was 6,459, while in 2021 it stood at 10,644. This was mainly due to the lockdown and restrictions due to Covid-19. But in 2022, it increased to 12,791, better than the pre-Covid years. In 2018, 8,086 people donated their organs, and it went up to 10,608 in 2019. Though India fares well in living donation, the deceased donation rate is only 0.34 per million population approximately, much lower than in western countries.

While in 2020, 1,060 people provided the lifesaving gift of organ donation upon their death, in 2021, it went up to 1,743. But in 2022, it slipped to 904, according to the Union health ministry data shared in Parliament. However, this was still low as compared to the pre-Covid time. In 2019, deceased donations were 2,138, compared to 2,493 in 2018.

According to Dr Harsha Jauhari, Chairman of the National Transplant Division, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital and a former member of the National Organ Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOOTO), even when a patient is brain dead, they are capable of saving six to eight lives since a deceased person can donate heart, lungs, kidneys, pancreas, liver, and intestine, including tissues like corneas, tissue and skin.

He said southern states – Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Karnataka – and western states - Maharashtra and Gujarat – report the maximum number of organ donations in the country. Even last year, when deceased donors saw a dip, these states continued to report the highest number of organs donated by the kin of those who suffered cardiac or brain death.

According to Dr R S Sindhu, head of the department in Surgical Gastroenterology, Government Medical College hospital, Kottayam, Kerala, the main problem why people don't come forward to register themselves as donors is that they don't trust the system as they believe that it involves medical malpractice. "The best solution is to strengthen the government system, which will help change attitudes," said Dr Sindhu, who conducted the first-ever liver transplant surgery in the government hospital.

Dr Rajeev Jayadevan, former President Indian Medical Association, said there is considerable confusion and lack of awareness about organ transplantation. "People have difficulty understanding the difference between living and cadaveric organ donation. Cadaveric donations of organs like kidneys and livers do not happen in the mortuary, like obtaining spare car parts in a junkyard. It is wrongly portrayed in some Indian films," he said.

Though Kerala records low numbers of deceased donors, compared to other southern states, it tops in registering the highest number of pledges of people coming forward to donate their organs after their deaths. Out of the 4,48,582 pledges that were registered in the country, Kerala alone registered 1,30,992 pledges. It is followed by Delhi (57,969), Maharashtra (49,168) and Tamil Nadu (19,443).

To promote Deceased Donor Organ Transplant (DDOT), the government last month made significant changes in the organ transplant regulations in the country under its 'one nation, one policy' rule. The three changes were removing the 65-year age cap for recipients, allowing them to register in any state and not just their home state, and offering no registration charge to register as an organ recipient.

LIVING DONORS --STATE-WISE FIGURES

STATES	2020	2021	2022
Delhi	1196	1738	3623
Tamil Nadu	721	1491	1691
Maharashtra	513	1051	1211
Kerala	722	987	979
Telangana	356	666	673
Gujarat	345	600	669
Karnataka	187	304	526

ANIMAL RIGHTS

No milk, please! Cow's having an 'off day'

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

A day of rest after nearly a week of hard work is something that we all cherish. But, what about farm animals? They are often put to work for days on end in most places. But, some two dozen villages in Jharkhand, where people give their cattle a weekly off day when no work is demanded of them, is a notable exception.

Cows and buffalos are not even milked on their off day. Not just that, they are given the best diet too.

According to the elderly, cattle remain healthy and energetic, if they are given a day of rest at least once a week.

The practice is followed by all cattle owners in the region and it is considered a sin if villagers make their cattle work on their off days. This is not a novel initiative. The practice has been in force for more than a hundred years. Sanjay Ganjhu, a resident of Turisot village under Chakla Panchayat in Latehar said the tribals don't take work from their cattle on Thursdays, while non-tribals do so on Sundays.

REPRESENTATIVE PICTURE

"On Sundays, we don't put our cattle at work, no matter how urgent it is. It has been considered a sin to take work from our cattle on Sundays," said Rameshwar Singh, former head of Heth-Pochra Panchayat. "It is being practiced since ages which are also being followed by them without any question," he added.

District animal husbandry officials too confirmed that it has been a long-observed practice in the villages to give cattle an off day when they get extra care. The practice reportedly began after an ox, which was put to regular work, collapsed and died while ploughing a field. According to villagers, it began in one village and spread to the adjacent villages.

Delhi tops TB cases at 546/L, patients up 13%

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

INDIA saw a 13 per cent increase in tuberculosis cases in 2022 compared to 2021, according to the annual India TB report.

It said there was a brief decline in TB notifications in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but the National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) recorded a high notification of 24.2 lakh cases, an increase of 13 per cent as compared to 2021. This translates to a case notification rate of approximately 172 cases per lakh population, according to the report titled, 'Leading the way – India TB report 2023.'

In 2021, India saw 19 per cent increase in new and relapsed tuberculosis (TB) patients compared to 2020.

In 2022, the highest case notification rate among states was in Delhi (546 per lakh population) and the lowest in Kerala (67 per lakh population).

Of the total cases, about 39 per cent were females, 5.6 per cent belonged to the paediatric age group (less than or equal to 14 years of age) and 23.6 per cent were 55 years or above, the report said.

CHILD-TRAFFICKING

The police in Maharashtra's Nagpur rescued a nine-month-old baby who was sold to a childless couple in Chhattisgarh, an official said on Sunday. A gang of four persons had procured the baby from a poor woman.

3 PERSONS AS TRUCK HITS BIKE IN UP'S LALITPUR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	32	21	Mumbai	31	24
Bhopal	28	16	Panaji	29	22
Jaipur	26	15	Patna	26	18
Amritsar	26	14	Lucknow	28	19
Chennai	32	26	Port Blair	32	25
Kolkata	26	21	Imphal	25	13
Srinagar	15	10	Chandigarh	24	16

Weather wreaks havoc for farmers

Unseasonal rains, lightening kill livestock in many areas of U'khand; SDRF teams deployed

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

FARMERS in the upper areas of Uttarakhand and shepherds are facing the brunt of unseasonal rains. While rains in hilly areas caused heavy damage to fruit cultivation, around 350 goats died in the lightning in Dunda block of Uttarkashi on Saturday night.

On Sunday, teams of the revenue department, animal husbandry department and SDRF reached the spot to assess the damage caused by the bad weather.

According to the information received by the state headquarters in the capital, around 350 goats were killed when lightning struck in a forest at Mathanau Tok near Khattukhal village in the Dunda development block of Uttarkashi. Dunda Village Pradhan Sunita Negi told this newspaper that Sanjeev Rawat, a pastoralist of village Bharsu in Bhatwadi block, has the highest number of 188 goats killed in the natural disaster.

"The owners insure their cattle. However, if this does not happen, the government gives compensation on humanitarian grounds. Our demand from the government will be that the affected cattle owners should be given adequate compensation," said Sunita Negi.

In Punjab, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Sunday visited Moga, Muktsar, Bathinda and Patiala districts of the state where crops were damaged by hailstorms and rains. He assured the farmers that they would be duly compensated for the loss.

If a farmer suffers more than 75 per cent crop loss, the state government will provide a compensation of ₹15,000 per acre. If the loss is between 33 and 75 per cent, the compensation would be ₹6,750 per acre, Mann said. Labourers will get 10 per cent as compensation while ₹95,100 would be paid as indemnity for damage to houses because of bad weather, he said.

Untimely rain accompanied by hail and high-velocity winds damaged wheat and other crops in several parts of Punjab. The chief minister announced that the state government would soon introduce a crop insurance scheme to safeguard the interest of farmers from nature's fury.

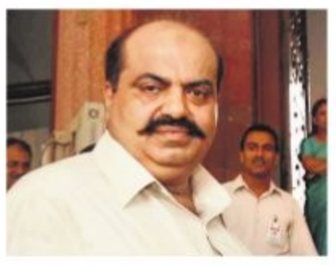
He alleged that the crop insurance scheme announced by the Centre remained confined to papers. The Punjab government shall always be committed to the welfare of the farmers and farm labourers, Mann said while asserting that he can well understand the agony and pain of farmers who suffered heavy losses due to sudden and erratic changes in weather.

Initial reports indicate that several acres of the cultivated area have been affected at a stage when Rabi crops were almost ready for harvest, he said. The CM said he has directed the financial commissioner to issue detailed instructions to the deputy commissioners concerned to immediately carry out a crop loss assessment to ascertain the damage. A report from Lucknow said recent storms have dashed the hopes of mango farmers in UP.

Massive crop damage in 3 states
Uttrakhand
Rains caused heavy damage to fruits cultivation
Around 350 goats died in Uttarkashi. Cattle owners demanded that they be given adequate compensation
Punjab
Hailstorms and rains damage crops in Moga, Muktsar, Bathinda and Patiala districts
Hail and high-velocity winds affect wheat and other crops
UP
Bad weather and lower than normal temperature has hit 40% of mango crop

Atiq taken to UP court from Guj, says fears for life

NAMITA BAJPAI/DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @Lucknow/Ahmedabad



A UP police team comprising 45 cops on Sunday evening left the Sabarmati Central Jail in Ahmedabad in Gujarat for Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh with gangster-turned-politician Atiq Ahmad in their custody, according to sources.

The police convoy will cover around 1,200-km, ferrying the Atiq, who will be produced in MP/MLA court of Prayagraj in connection with the 2007 case of abduction of Umesh Pal, who was the prime witness in the BSP MLA Raju Pal murder case of 2005. Umesh Pal was murdered allegedly by Atiq's cohorts on February 24 this year.

Atiq Ahmad, former SP MP from Phulpur and five-term MLA, is being brought back in compliance with production warrant issued by Prayagraj MP/MLA court which will pronounce the verdict in the abduction case on March 28.

Additional DG, Law and Order, Prashant Kumar said movement of the police vehicles will be closely watched. He said the convoy would travel round-the-clock to reach Prayagraj. Atiq is being brought in a hi-tech prison van, Vajra, accompanied by four police escorts, an additional prison van and an ambulance.

Atiq was made to sit in the 'Vajra' along with a team of cops. While proceeding towards the van, Atiq told to the media persons that he was feeling a threat to his life. "These people have planned to assassinate me," said the gangster while getting into the van.

GUWAHATI DIARY

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR

Our correspondent in Guwahati

prasantamazumdar@newindianexpress.com

5 officers suspended in MPLAD funds scam

Five civil servants, including an IAS officer, were suspended in connection with an alleged scam in road projects involving the MPLAD funds of journalist-turned-Rajya Sabha member Ajit Kumar Bhuyan. The action followed a probe by the Chief Minister's special vigilance cell. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said if the MP feels the action being taken was politically-motivated, and that he was free to share the details of the work. "So far, we have not considered him (Bhuyan) as an accused but if he keeps protecting the accused, it will establish he is involved in the scam," Sarma said.

State Congress chief dreams big

Assam Congress president Bhupen Kumar Borah dreams to see Congress win the state's all 14 seats in next year's Lok Sabha elections. "I have a dream and I seek the blessings of people. They will bless us to win the 14 seats," Borah said. However, his colleague and Lok Sabha member Abdul Khaleque is not so optimistic. "I won't say we will win all 14 seats but the anti-BJP forces will get more seats," Khaleque predicted. BJP minister Jayanta Malla Baruah said Borah has moved to the world of poetry from politics. "He may say anything," Baruah ridiculed Borah.

Cash-for-job: Ex-APSC chairman gets bail

The Gauhati High Court has granted bail to former chairman of Assam Public Service Commission (APSC) Rakesh Kumar Paul in another case registered in Guwahati. Earlier, he secured bail in three other cases. He was arrested by the police in November 2016 for his involvement in a cash-for-job scam. Recently, CM Himanta Biswa Sarma told the Assembly 57 officers involved in the scam were arrested and dismissed from service. They were of the 2013, 2015 and 2016 batches. An aide of Paul had approached dental surgeon promising a job, demanding money. But she tipped off the police.

MP ELECTION

Nadda targets 200+ seats, 51% vote share

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

SETTING an ambitious target of 200-plus assembly seats out of the total 230 seats and over 51 per cent vote share in the year-end assembly polls in Madhya Pradesh, the ruling BJP's national president JP Nadda gave a call to party's polling booth heads to connect with people across the state for detailing the party's achievements and exposing the real political character of the Congress.

"Go and meet every person and put facts before them on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's policy of Reform-Transform and Perform. Tell them how MP made rapid strides at the Centre and state, spanning from recent 33 railway projects and 5,872 km of rail line projects at an investment of over ₹84,000 crore to opening of 14 medical colleges in the state during the last nine years," Nadda said while addressing a gathering of polling booth.

He also appreciated the government's recently launched Laadli Bahna Scheme. The BJP's target of 200-plus seats for polls isn't new, as five years ago, the same target was set by the party, but it finished with just 109 seats.

RSS-backed tribals in Assam march against religious conversion

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

TRIBALS from 30 districts of Assam organised a massive rally in Guwahati on Sunday, asking the government to stop "unethical religious conversions". Wearing traditional attires and carrying folk musical instruments, they congregated at the Khanapara field under the banner of Janajati Dharma Sanskriti Suraksha Manch, which is an RSS affiliate.

The organisation also demanded that the government de-list the converted Scheduled Tribe (ST) people "who have completely given up their original tribal culture, customs, rituals, way of life and traditions after conversion".

Further, it demanded an amendment to Article 342 A of the Constitution (socially and educationally backward classes). It insisted that if any Scheduled Caste (SC) person converts to any other religion, he or she should be automatically de-listed from SC reservation.

The organisation alleged that religious conversion has increased alarmingly in Assam and the tribals have been vulnerable to it.

"It is our sincere request to all to save the poor ST people from getting swallowed by the organised, communal and theocratic foreign religions, or else, our identity and traits will be extinct in no time," the organisation said.

It decided to submit separate memoranda to President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in this regard. Binud Kumbang, the co-convener and working president of the organisation's Assam unit, said religious conversion has been posing a great threat to people belonging to STs since pre-independence.

"Religious conversions of tribals in Assam are not a new thing. The ST people are the easiest prey," Kumbang said.

SETBACK TO DIDI

TMC wiped out of crucial Haldia election

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kolkata

IN a reflection of Murshidabad's recent Sagardighi Assembly by-election, in which Left Front-Congress tie-up defeated the ruling Trinalool Congress, the alliance has scored another victory in the elections to Haldia Dock Institute Steering Committee (HDISC) in East Midanpore, wiping out the TMC. The alliance candidates bagged all 19 seats forcing the labour wings of the TMC and the BJP to return empty handed.

In earlier elections of the HDISC, the TMC had secured victory in all the seats. In every two years, HDISC goes to elections and the electorates are the permanents workers and officers of Haldia dock.

CPI(M)'s district president Niranjan Singhi said: "We had zero representative in previous elections. This time the voters decided to support the candidates of our alliance with the Congress."

The TMC had bagged minority dominated Sagardighi Assembly seats for third straight terms since 2011, but it faced a debacle in the by-election after the sitting MLA died. Both the TMC and BJP fielded candidates in 19 seats.

BJP accuses Baghel of Muslim 'appeasement', Cong counters charge

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

THE BJP leaders in Chhattisgarh on Sunday termed the government circular on bus services for the convenience of fasting Muslim employees as "religious appeasement the Congress often practises".

The official circular stated: 'During the working days in Ramadan month till the Eid holiday, one separate bus will operate for the convenience of Muslim officers and staff from the secretariat and the directorate at new capital city Nava Raipur (some 25 km away from the Raipur city).

Instead of the usual hour of departure, the bus carrying the Muslim employees will leave by 4:40 pm."

As the circular appeared on the public domain, the BJP leader and former minister Rajesh Munat shared it on his twitter handle with a remark that said "Bhupesh Baghel ji gives big lecture on Ganga-Jamuni Tahzeeb, but the Congress habitually plays the game of 'religious appeasement".

> Let me remind them that similar official orders were issued during the Raman Singh government on the bus service in 2016, 2017 and 2018
>
> R P Singh, Congress spokesperson

"In this order, a special care has been taken for the Muslim officers-staff but remain silent on Navratri", the BJP leader said. The ruling Congress was quick to counter. Congress spokesperson R P Singh retorted saying BJP leaders after losing the power in the state have lost their memory too.

"To assist in their power to recall, let me remind them the similar official orders were issued during the Raman Singh government on the bus service in the years 2016, 2017 and 2018. Only the date and year have changed. The BJP in one of its orders in 2005 had given a relief to the Muslim staff to leave office an hour before the scheduled time", said Singh.

The experts stated that in an election year the opposition is often seen preoccupied with such issues they believe will bring political dividend.

Couple recalls kid's organ donation after PM praise

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

Sukhbir Singh Sandhu with his wife and children | EXPRESS

TWO years after an Amritsar couple lost their 39-day-old daughter to a heart ailment, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday cited their example during the 'Mann Ki Baat' program to highlight the importance of organ donation.

Talking to this newspaper over phone, Sukhbir Singh Sandhu who works as agriculture development officer with Punjab government in Amritsar, said, "Our daughter Ababad Kaur was born on October 20, 2020. She was a healthy child as she weighed four kgs at the time of her birth. She was diagnosed with vein of Galen Malformations (VOGM), a rare disease, due to which her heart got enlarged. When she was 24 days old, she suffered a heart attack. We were referred to PGIMER at Chandigarh, where the doctors said they can't operate on her as she was too small. She again suffered a cardiac arrest and died."

"We then decided to donate her organs but the doctors told us that only her kidneys can be donated as she is too small. We then went ahead with that," he said, adding, "No family member objected to our decision; rather, they supported us."

Vein of Galen Malformation (VOGM), a rare blood vessel malformation in the brain, develops before birth and may be found during pregnancy or very soon after birth. This condition affects a large vein deep at the base of the brain.

The malformation causes oxygen-rich blood to flow directly through this vein away from the brain instead of delivering blood to surrounding brain tissues. This rush of blood away from the brain puts pressure on the heart and lungs, often causing congestive heart failure or pulmonary hypertension.

The couple has a five-year-old son named Sarbuland Singh.

The family got surprised and emotional when PM Modi called them up in the context of their daughter's kidneys being donated. "PM Modi called us up and spoke to us for about ten minutes and told us that the nation is very proud of the family as we are following gurus' teaching. My daughter made us proud and at the same time very emotional," said Sandhu.

A letter written by Dr Ashish Sharma, head of the department of renal transplant surgery in PGIMER, to Sandhu on January 5, 2021, states, "I would like to thank you for your generosity in allowing PGIMER team to retrieve both kidneys from Ababat Kaur Sandhu who was born with defects which were incompatible with life.

The kidneys taken from the young child were transplanted successfully in an 18-year-old male from a village near Patiala. The boy was diagnosed with kidney failure in 2015 and has been on dialysis since then."

In another letter, Prof Ashok Kumar, additional medical superintendent of PGIMER, wrote to Sandhu on January 5, 2021 that the institute feels that the noble act of the family will motivate others to do the same.

Teenager got new lease of life from dead infant

In 2020, after losing their 39-day-old daughter to a rare heart ailment, an Amritsar-based couple donated her kidneys which were later successfully transplanted on a 18-year-old male boy, on dialysis since 2015. The decision was lauded by their family and medical experts. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday cited their example during the 'Mann Ki Baat' programme to highlight the importance of organ donation.

Semi-clad woman chases power staff to recover seized bed in MP's Sagar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

THE video of a half-dressed elderly scheduled caste woman running behind a team of an electricity distribution company, which seized even her bed to recover the outstanding power bill of about ₹19,000, in Sagar district has shaken the people of Madhya Pradesh.

Acting on the matter following the viral video, state Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan ordered immediate suspension of the two line operators of the electricity department/company. The services of two outsourced employees have also been terminated with immediate effect.

The police are also acting against those, who filmed the shocking visuals of the half-dressed woman running in full public view to save her confiscated property, including the bed. A case has been lodged at the Deori police station in Sagar district against one person for filming the video and uploading it over social media. The accused has been detained by the police, Sagar district administration sources said. The incident happened in Deori town in the Bundelkhand region on Saturday where the electricity department/company staff was on drive to recover outstanding electricity bills recovery.

According to the elderly woman's daughter-in-law, the electricity department/company staffers entered her house when her mother-in-law was alone there and asked her to pay the outstanding bill worth ₹19,473. When the elderly woman said the power connection was not in her name, but in her daughter-in-law's name, the team misbehaved with her and asked her to pay the dues.

"They took away my bed and some other belongings, forcing me to run behind them in this manner (half-dressed) to save my bed and other belongings," the elderly woman said.

Opposition Congress targeted the Shivraj Singh Chouhan government over the issue. The local MLA and former minister Harsh Yadav alleged that "the electricity company team stormed into the woman's house while she was alone and taking bath.

They misbehaved with her and forcibly took away her belongings, after which she ran behind them half-dressed. What happened on Saturday for recovery of electricity bill dues has tarnished the MP's image".

Even though the chief minister, in the wake of recent destruction of standing rabi crop in the wake of inclement weather, has asked the officials to go slow on recoveries, teams of the electricity department/company have been reportedly seizing property of defaulter customers, spanning from water pumps to vehicles and beds to buffaloes in Gwalior-Chambal and Bundelkhand regions.

Operators suspended; FIR for filming act

Acting on the matter following the viral video, state Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan ordered immediate suspension of the two line operators of the electricity department/company. A case has been lodged at the Deori police station in Sagar district against one person for filming the video and uploading it over social media. The accused has been detained by the police.

TWO found dead in a railroad car in south Texas were Honduran men, the US Department of Homeland Security said

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • SW: Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	20	3	TDS	Los Angeles	23	9	LC
Colombo	32	25	LC	Melbourne	19	16	HR
Dhaka	32	23	TDS	Moscow	10	1	HR
Dubai	32	23	SNY	New York	13	5	LC
Houston	28	20	SNY	Singapore	32	26	TDS
Istanbul	19	11	LC	Toronto	4	0	LC
London	10	4	LC	Washington	14	6	LC

DANGEROUS & IRRESPONSIBLE: NATO FLAYS RUSSIAN NUCLEAR MOVE

Ukraine seeks UNSC meet, says Kremlin took Belarus as nuke hostage

BRUSSELS

THE NATO alliance on Sunday condemned Russia's announcement that it would deploy tactical nuclear weapons to Belarus as "dangerous and irresponsible." But spokeswoman Oana Lungescu said the western allies had not yet "seen any changes in Russia's nuclear posture that would lead us to adjust our own."

President Vladimir Putin counters by comparing the move to the United States basing some of its nuclear arsenal on the territory of its European allies. But NATO dismissed this analogy.

"Russia's nuclear rhetoric is dangerous and irresponsible. NATO is vigilant, and we are closely monitoring the situation," Lungescu said. "Russia's reference to NATO's nuclear sharing is...misleading. NATO allies act with full respect of their international commitments," she said.

Also on Sunday, the EU's foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said that Brussels was ready to impose new sanctions on Belarus if Minsk were to host Russian nuclear weapons. "Belarus hosting Russian nuclear weapons would mean...threat to European security. Belarus can still stop it, it is their choice. The EU stands ready to respond with further sanctions," he tweeted.

Meanwhile, Ukraine on Sunday said it was seeking an emergency meeting of the United Nation's Security Council to counter Russia's "nuclear blackmail" after Putin's announcement of stationing weapons in Belarus.

"Ukraine expects effective actions to counteract the Kremlin's nuclear blackmail from the UK, China, the US and France," the Ukrainian foreign ministry said. "We demand that an extraordinary meeting of the UN Security Council be immediately convened for this purpose," it added.

On Sunday, secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defence Council, Oleksiy Danilov wrote on Twitter that "the Kremlin took Belarus as a nuclear hostage." He added that the move was "a step towards the internal destabilisation of the country."

The Ukrainian foreign ministry accused Russia of breaching its obligations, and of undermining the "nuclear disarmament architecture and the international security system in general." *AFP*

People walk past an army recruiting billboard with the words "Military service under contract in the armed forces" in St. Petersburg, Russia | AP

EXPLOSION INJURES THREE IN RUSSIA

In Russia, authorities said three people were injured when a Ukrainian drone caused an explosion Sunday in a town far from the two countries' border. The state-run news agency *Tass* reported authorities identified the drone as a Ukrainian Tu-141. The Tu-141 went into service in the Soviet army in the 1970s. The explosion damaged residential buildings in the town of Kireyevsk in the Tula region, about 300 km from the border with Ukraine and 175 km south of Moscow. Ukraine has not yet commented on the incident.

Honduras begins ties with China

BEIJING

HONDURAS established diplomatic ties with China on Sunday after breaking off relations with Taiwan, which is increasingly isolated and now recognised by 13 sovereign states.

Foreign ministers from China and Honduras signed a joint communique in Beijing—a decision Chinese Foreign Ministry hailed as "right choice."

China's Foreign Minister Qin Gang said the establishment of ties proved that adhering to "one China" policy is winning people's hearts and is "the general trend." "We inform the Taiwan authorities that engaging in separatist activities for independence is against the will and interests of the Chinese nation...and is doomed to a dead end," he said. The Honduran Foreign Ministry said that its government recognises "only one China in the world" and that Beijing "is the only legitimate government that represents all of China." It added that "Taiwan is an inalienable part of Chinese territory, and as of today, the Honduran government has informed Taiwan of the severance of diplomatic relations, pledging not to have any official relationship...with Taiwan." Taiwan Foreign Minister Joseph Wu said on Sunday that Taiwan had ended its relations with Honduras to "safeguard its sovereignty and dignity." *AP*

87.8% Hindus healthy, Sikhs likely to own homes in UK

LONDON

HINDUS living in the UK are among the healthiest and well qualified religious groups and Sikhs are most likely to own their homes, according to the census data for England and Wales. The UK's Office for National Statistics has been analysing census statistics to release information across various subcategories for the country's population based on the responses of the online census conducted in March 2021. In its latest release entitled 'Religion by housing, health, employment and education' this week, the ONS finds that life outcomes for religious groups varied considerably. "In 2021, those who identified as Hindu had the highest percentage of their population reporting either 'very good' or 'good' health (87.8%), compared with 82% of the overall population," the ONS finds, adding that the Hindus also reported the "lowest prevalence of disability."

"People who identified as Hindu had the highest percentage with a Level 4or above qualification (54.8%), compared with the overall population (33.8%)," it noted. *PTI*

IN THE COURT OF 14th ADDL. CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE, AT BENGALURU
Cri. Mis. Pet. No. 50281/2022

BETWEEN: Nagaraja .M.S, S/o Sanjeevappa, aged about 39 years, R/at No. 31, Devaraja Dry Cleaners, Peerless Colony, Bhatrahalli, Virgonagara, Bangalore-560049... **PETITIONER**

AND: The Registrar Birth and Deaths, BBMP Mahadevapura, Bengaluru... **RESPONDENT**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the petitioner has filed petition for obtaining an order seeking direction to above said respondent authority to enter the death of petitioner's mother by SHANTHAMMA, W/o Sanjeevappa who died on 21/08/2012 at No. 251, Agasarabeedi, Doddanekkundi, Near Bus Stand, Bengaluru-560037 and accordingly obtain death certificate from the respondent. If any person interested to file their objection in this matter, may appear at **11:00 A.M** on **12/04/2023** to which date the case is posted for hearing, before the Hon'ble 14th ACMM at Bengaluru.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this Day of 24/03/2023

By order of the Court, Sheristadar, XIV Addl. C.M.M. Court, Mayo hall, Bengaluru.

Advocate for Petitioner: **Sri Gopal Gowda .H.K** No. 33, Swayamprabhe, Ground Floor, North Park Road, Kumara Park East, Bengaluru-560001.

IN THE COURT OF 14th ADDL. CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE, AT BENGALURU
Cri. Mis. Pet. No. 50283/2022

BETWEEN: Ravikumar .A, S/o Ashwathappa, aged about 43years, R/at No. 260, 201, Agasarabeedi, Doddanekkundi, Near Bus Stand, Bengaluru-560037... **PETITIONER**

AND: The Registrar Birth and Deaths, BBMP Mahadevapura, Bengaluru... **RESPONDENT**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the petitioner has filed petition for obtaining an order seeking direction to above said respondent authority to enter the death of petitioner's Grandfather by ANNAIAH, S/o Late Muniyappa who died on 15/06/1979 at No. 260, 201, Agasarabeedi, Doddanekkundi, Near Bus Stand, Bengaluru-560037 and accordingly obtain death certificate from the respondent. If any person interested to file their objection in this matter, may appear at **11:00 A.M** on **12/04/2023** to which date the case is posted for hearing, before the Hon'ble 14th ACMM at Bengaluru.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this Day of 24/03/2023

By order of the Court, Sheristadar, XIV Addl. C.M.M. Court, Mayo hall, Bengaluru.

Advocate for Petitioner: **Sri Gopal Gowda .H.K** No. 33, Swayamprabhe, Ground Floor, North Park Road, Kumara Park East, Bengaluru-560001.

IN THE COURT OF 14th ADDL. CHIEF METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE, AT BENGALURU
Cri. Mis. Pet. No. 50282/2022

BETWEEN: Ravikumar .A. S/o Ashwathappa, aged about 43yeras, R/at No.260, 201,Agasarabeedi, Doddanekkundi, Near Bus Stand, Bengaluru-560037... **PETITIONERS**

AND: The Registrar Birth and Deaths, BBMP Mahadevapura, Bengaluru... **RESPONDENTS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the petitioner has filed petition for obtaining an order seeking direction to above said respondent authority to enter the death of petitioner's Grandmother by AKKAYAMMA W/o Late ANNAIAH who died on 23-04-2010 at No.260, 201, Agasarabeedi, Doddanekkundi, Near Bus Stand, Bengaluru- 560037. and accordingly obtain death certificate from the respondent. If any person interested to file their objection in this matter, may appear at 11:00 A.M on **12-04-2023** to which date the case is posted for hearing, before the Hon'ble 14th ACMM at Bengaluru.

Given under my hand and the seal of the court on 24-03-2023.

By order of the court, 14th Addl Chief Metropolitan, Magistrate, Bengaluru.

Advocate for Petitioner: **Sri Gopal Gowda .H.K** No.33, Swayamprabhe, Ground Floor, North park road, Kumara park East, Bengaluru-560001.

RITES LTD., A Govt. of India Enterprise (Ministry of Railways)

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

GGM(P), RITES Ltd. Bengaluru invites Open Tenders vide **NIT No. RITES/BLR/OT/04/2023 Date 27.03.2023** and **NIT No. RITES/BLR/OT/05/2023 Date 27.03.2023.** Last dateand time of submission of bid **17.04.2023 upto 11.00 hrs and 12.00 hrs** respectively. Thebid forms and other details can be obtained from the website **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app.** Addendum / Corrigendum, if any, shall be hosted online only.

Sd/- GGM(P)
RITES Ltd. Bangalore
For and on behalf of DCTE

QuoteExpress

PROBLEMS ARE NOT STOP SIGNS, THEY ARE GUIDELINES

ROBERT H SCHULLER

Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department, Kolar

E-procurement Short-Term Tender Notification No:39/2022-23,Dated: 17.03.2023

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department invites tender for the scheme of Jal Jeevan Mission (Functional household tap Connection) 2022-23 of Mulbagal of Kolar District. Item rate tenders by two cover system through e-procurement portal. Those who have registered in PWD/CPWD (Government of Karnataka) are eligible in participation of tendering for more details visit website **http://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Last date for online submission of Bid is **10.04.2023 upto 17.30 hours.**

Sd/-Executive Engineer, RDW&S Division, Kolar

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಕೋಲಾರ/ಆರ್.ಓ.ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 575/ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಎ/2022-23.

HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19? CALL APTHAMITRA ON 14410

Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

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Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd
8B, Doshi Towers, 205, Poonamalle High Road, Kilpauk, Chennai-600 010.Telephone: 044-4565 0003

Possession Notice Appendix IV (rule8 (1) of the SARFAESI Act

Whereas, the undersigned being the authorized officer of **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued **demand notice dated 15--06--2021 calling upon the borrowers 1.Anand, 2.Shruthi G & 3.Shivaraju M to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being for Home Construction Loan in Loan No: ABANGL0020398 of Rs. 965897/-(Rupees Nine Lakhs Sixty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Seven Only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **"Symbolic Possession"** of the property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rule **on this 24th day of March, 2023.**

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd for an amount of Rs. 11,33,376/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Thirty Three Thousand Three Hundred and Seventy Six Only) as on 23.02.2023** and interest thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets

Description of the Immovable property:-

Schedule-B: All that piece and parcel of property being a portion of South Western side of Site 58 and 59, Khatha No.372/A, Property No. 48/2, situated at Hoodi Village, Krishnarajapuram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, earlier was under the limits of Mahadevapura CMC, now comes under the limits of BBMP, Bangalore measuring East to West 20 feet and North to South 29 feet in all measuring 580 Sq.ft and bounded on: and **bounded by:-North By:** Site no: 58&59 in the name of Mr M manjunath, **South By:** Road, **East By:** Site no: 58&59 in the name of Mr M Venkatesh murthy, **West By:** Road.

Date: 24.03.2023 **Sd/- Authorised Officer**
Place: Krishnarajapuram **Aptus Value Housing Finance India Ltd**

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **K. JANARDHANAM** residing at No 80, 6th Cross, 2nd Main, Widia Layout, Vijayanagar Banglore has lost/misplaced his property documents of original absolute sale deed bearing reference no 1383/2009-10 and 29150/2005-2006 registered with the office of the Sub Registrar Kengeri Bangalore in respect of Site No 3 and 4, Nagadevanahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli Bangalore South Taluk. A police complaint has already been lodged online before Bangalore city police on 30-12-2022 vide report no. 0430168/2022. If any person found same, kindly handed over the same to my client or afore said address.

Akkalappa Yadav, M.A., LL.B **Advocate**
Permanent Address: Pothaganahalli Pavagada Taluk, Tumkur District
Correspondence Address :
22, 1st Cross Sri Krishna Nilaya, Vyalikaval HBCS Layout Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560040. Mob: 094482 34777

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that Reg. Power of Attorney executed by our client Sri. Riyaz Pasha S/o Late. Sri. Mohammed Masthan Saheb @ Basha Saheb, aged about 60 years, residing at No.20, 1st Cross, Millers Road, Benson Town, Bengaluru-560046, registered as Document No.788/1996-97, Volume No. SF71, Book IV at Pages-85 to 88, Dt.23.11.1996 in the office of Sub-Registrar Yelahanka, Bangalore in favour of his eldest brother Sri. Ansar Pasha S/o Late. Sri. Mohammed Masthan Saheb @ Basha Saheb, is cancelled on 02.03.2023 through Registered Deed of Cancellation of Power of Attorney in the office of Sub-Registrar Hoskote, Bangalore vide Document No. HSK-4-00814-2022-23, Book IV, stored in C.D. No. HSKD1786 by our said client Sri. Riyaz Pasha. Hence, the powers given to said Sri. Ansar Pasha under the said Reg. Power of Attorney Dt.23.11.1996 is ceased and any acts and deeds performed by said Sri. Ansar Pasha representing himself as Power of Attorney Holder of our client Sri. Riyaz Pasha shall stand nullity before law and shall not be binding on Sri. Riyaz Pasha and his legal representatives.

K.N.L. ASSOCIATES, K.L. SHREENEVASA & K.S. JAYASIMHA, ADVOCATES
Office No. 31, 3rd Floor, V.C.N Building, No.170, 1st Main Road, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru - 560020.
Phone: 8277125549, 7259460779
Date : 26.03.2023

APTRANSCO :: VIJAYAWADA
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The APTRANSCO invites bids online for **Spec.No.PMM23-e-09/2023** for Lot-1: Supply of 19 Nos DCDB Panels for 220V, 10A, 100 AH Battery Charger and Lot-2: 13 Nos DCDB Panels for 220V, 20A, 200 AH Battery Charger. Date & Time of availability of tender is 27-03-2023 at 04:00 PM. Website: **www.tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.** Contact No. CE/Transmission : **0866-2429230.**

Sd/- Chief Engineer, Transmission

DIPR No.1633PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22 Dt: 24.03.2023

AMANATH CO-OPERATIVE BANK LIMITED
(Scheduled Bank)
CORPORATE OFFICE , " AMANATH HOUSE " No. 43, HOSPITAL ROAD, SHIVAJINAGAR, BENGALURU – 560001 PHONE : 080 -22957710 - 016.

TENDER NOTIFICATION (SEALED)

RESERVE PRICE 10.00 Crores (Rupees Ten Crores only)

The Bank invites Sealed Tenders from the General Public for sale of its own Immovable Property at Office Unit New No 183 in the basement floor of the building known as "5th Avenue Mall" constructed on the property bearing corporation Nos 182,183 and 184 ward No 76 PID No. 76-10-183 situated at Brigade Road,Bengaluru–560001,subject to the condition mentioned below.The interested Bidders are required to submit their sealed tenders on or before 30.03.2023 before 5.00 P M to the undersigned at Amanath Co-operative Bank Limited,Corporate Office, Amanath House, No. 43, Hospital Road, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru - 560001.

For any further information please contact Mr. SYED SAJID, Mobile No. 9845533854

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property bearing office unit New No 183 in the basement floor of the building known as "5th Avenue Mall" constructed on the property bearing corporation Nos 182,183 and 184 ward No 76 PID No. 76-10-183 situated at Brigade Road Bengaluru - 560001.withSuper Built-up area (SBA) 3731 Sqft Basement floor Eastern Portion /front side unit, Bounded on the :

North by: private Property — South by: Private Property
East by : Brigade Road — West by: private Property.

Terms and Conditions :

1. Only the bidder along with one of his representative shall be present during the opening of the sealed covers which will be held on 31.03.2023.
2. The sale of property is on the basis of ' AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION '
3. An EMD amount of Rs. 25,00,000.00 (Rupees Twenty-Fivelakhsonly) for the scheduled properties should be remitted by way of DD/PAYORDER in favour of Amanath Co-operativeBank Limited with the Tender. The offer should be submitted on or before30.03.2023.
4. The bidder should submit his/her Aadhaar card and Permanent Account No. (PAN CARD) along with the offer.
5. The area indicated in this schedule is as per available records and measurements by the Bank.
6. Price shall be quoted, and payment shall be made by the successful bidder on lump sum basis for entire property not on area measurement basis.
7. The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all offers received in response to this notice for sale without assigning any reasons, whatsoever and without being liable to loss/injury that bidder might suffer due to such reason. The decision of the Bank shall be final, conclusive and binding on all parties.
8. The property will be Registered in the name of the highest bidder only upon receipt of the entire agreed amount at a mutually convenient date.
9. The bidder shall bear all the necessary charges of Registration, or any other charges related to transfer of the title deeds.
10. The successful bidder should deposit at least 25 % of the amount immediately by CASH/PAYORDER at the time of opening the tender, and the remaining balance of 75 % of the amount in full, within one month from the date of auction, failing which the initial deposit will be forfeited.

Date of opening of the tenders: **31/03/2023** Time: 11-30 AM

Venue: Amanath Co-operative Bank Limited, Corporate Office, Amanath House. No. 43, Hospital Road, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru - 560001.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SHRIRAM HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

DEMAND NOTICE

Registered Office: Office No.123, Angappa Naicken Street, Chennai-600 001. **Branch Office:** Level 3, Wockhardt Towers, East Wing C-2 Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai 400 051. **Website:** www.shriramhousing.in

Whereas the borrowers/co-borrowers/guarantors/ mentioned hereunder had availed the financial assistance from SHRIRAM HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED. We state that despite having availed the financial assistance, the borrowers/guarantors have committed various defaults in repayment of interest and principal amounts as per due dates. The account has been classified as Non-Performing Asset in accordance with the directives/guidelines issued by Reserve Bank of India, consequent to the Authorized Officer of SHRIRAM HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED under The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 & in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on respective dates mentioned herein below under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI Act, 2002 calling upon the following borrowers /guarantors /mortgagors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices together with further interest at the contractual rate on the amount mentioned in the notices and incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. until the date of payment within 60 days from the date of receipt of notices.

. The notices issued to them on their last known addresses have returned un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the Borrower (S) Co-Borrower(S)	Outstanding Amount	Loan Amount	Property Address of Secured Assets
Loan A/c No. SHLHBGLR0001477 **1. MR. ASLAM PASHA S/O MOHAMMED ISMAIL,** **2. MRS. ASHRAPH UNNISA W/O ASLAM PASHA,** **R/at: No. 248/252, 7th 'C' Cross Road, Hegganahalli, Andrahalli Main Road, Near Hassana Ayyankar Bakery, Herohalli, Bangalore – 560 091** **Also At: ASLAM PASHA, Civil Building Contractor, No. 248/252, 7th 'C' Cross Road, Hegganahalli, Andrahalli Main Road, Near Hassana Ayyankar Bakery, Herohalli, Bangalore – 560 091** **NPA DATE** - 08.03.2023 **DATE OF DEMAND NOTICE: 16/03/2023**	Rs. 42,39,533/- (Rupees Forty Two Lakhs Thirty Nine Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty Three Only) in respect of Loan Account No. SHLHBGLR0001477 as on 12.03.2023	Rs. 38,26,142/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakhs Twenty Six Thousand One Hundred and Forty Two Only) under reference of Loan Account No. SHLHBGLR0001477	All the piece and parcel of the Property bearing Western Portion of Site No. 153, in Sy NO. 68, Situated at Hegganahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, presently within the limits of BBMP, measuring East to West 15 Ft and North to South 45 Ft and bounded on: East by : Remaining portion of Site No. 153, West by: Other's Property, North by: Road, South by: Other's Property.

In the circumstances as aforesaid, the notice is hereby given to the above borrowers, co-borrowers and/ or their guarantors (where ever applicable) to pay the outstanding dues as mentioned above along with future interest and applicable charges within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the borrowers and the mortgagors under Section 13(4) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and the applicable rules there under.

Please note that under Section 13 (13) of the said Act, no Borrower shall, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise any of his secured assets referred to in the notice, without prior written consent of the secured creditor.

Place: Bangalore — Sd/- Authorised Officer
Date : 27-03-2023 — Shriram Housing Finance Ltd

Bharat Bank
Bharat Co-op. Bank (Mumbai) Ltd.
Multi-State Scheduled Bank

POSSESSION NOTICE

WHEREAS

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd., under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notice dated 07.01.2023 calling upon the Principal Borrower **Mr.Dinesh K.R, S/o.Mr. Ramanna & Joint/Co Borrowers Mrs.Nalina S, W/o. Mr.Dinesh K.R** to repay the amount mentioned in the Demand Notice being **Rs.18,91,544.12 (Rupees Eighteen Lakh Ninety One Thousand Five Hundred Forty Four and Paise Twelve)** outstanding as on 11.12.2022 under Housing Loan A/c No.002333330000414 alongwith further interest & other charges respectively within 60 days from the date of the receipt of the said notice.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrowers in particular and the public in general that the undersigned has taken the Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub section (4) of section 13 of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 on this 21st day of March 2023.

The Borrowers in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the said Property and any dealings with the said Property shall be subject to the charge of Bharat Co-Operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd, for an amount being Rs.18,91,544.12 (Rupees Eighteen Lakh Ninety One Thousand Five Hundred Forty Four and Paise Twelve) outstanding as on 11.12.2022 under Housing Loan A/c No.002333330000414 alongwith further interest & other charges respectively, less amount paid thereafter if any.

The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8)of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of One Bedroom Residential, One Unit on Basement Floor, admeasuring **600 sq.ft Built up area,** in the multistoried building known as **'Sayujya Villament',** along with parking of 100sq.ft, the building constructed on the Site No.203/71, carved out of the Residentially converted land bearing Sy.No.5/1D, situated at **Doddakallasandra Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** site measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 40 feet, totally measuring **1600sq.ft,** presently within the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore together with **135.73 Sq.ft** of undivided share of right, Title and interest in the above mentioned site and the property bounded by:.

East : Private Property
West : Site No.72
North : Site No.80
South : Road

Sd/- **Chief Manager & Authorised Officer,**
Bharat Co-operative Bank (Mumbai) Ltd.
No. 100, Money Terrace, K.H. Road, Bangalore-560 027
Tel : K.H. Road Branch : 080-22121066, 22291942

Place : Bangalore
Date : 21.03.2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Client **Sri.MANJUNATH.S,** S/o Sri. Sanjeevareddy, aged about 41 years, residing at No.FF2, #63&64, Ram Narayan Chambers, 3rd Cross, Vinayaka Layout, Hebbal Kempapura, Bangalore-560024, is the sole and absolute owner of the residential house property **bearing No.2, formed in Sy.No.47, BBMP New Katha No.6930/1830/1326/98/98/47/2,** situated at **KATTIGENAHALLI Village,** Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently comes under the Jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Ward No.05-Jakkur, Bengaluru, measuring East to West: 25 Feet, North to South: 40 Feet, totally 1000 Square Feet together with RCC roofed building and bounded on:- **East by:** Road, **West by:** Private Property, **North by:** Site No.1, **South by:** Site No.3. My client has lost/misplaced the registered **Original Gift Deed,** which was registered in the Office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Yelahanka, Bengaluru, registered as **Document No.YAN-1-09179-2013-14** of Book-I, Stored in CD No.YAND524, **dated: 23-12-2013** and **Original Absolute Sale Deed,** which was registered in the Office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Gandhinagar (Jala), Bengaluru, registered as **Document No.JAL-1-05890-2012-13 of Book-I,** Stored in CD No.JALD163, **dated:19-03-2013 on 20-03-2023 at 11-30 A.M** at Xerox Centre, Near Yelahanka Bus Stop, Bengaluru-560064, and the same is not traceable. My client has lodged the complaint (U/s 155 Cr Pc) to the Karnataka State Police, Police Unit: Bengaluru City, **Lost Report No.0512492/2023, dated: 25-03-2022.**

Any person/s holding the said **Original Gift Deed & Absolute Sale Deed,** pertaining to the above said property shall return the same to the undersigned or to my client within **ten (10) days** from the date of publication of this Notice and if the Original Gift Deed & Absolute Sale Deed is not retrieved, my client shall act upon the Certified Copy of the above deeds which shall be treated as Original. No person or persons have any manner of right or interest to hold the Original above Deeds.

Sd/- UMASHANKAR.N, B.Com., LL.B., Advocate, AKASH ASSOCIATES, No.541/82/2, I FLOOR, 7th Main Road, OYO LODGE BUILDING, Vijayanagara, Bengaluru-40. **M: 9731278242**
Place: Bengaluru — Date : 27-03-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

NOTICE is hereby given that **Mr. Salil Bhatnagar and Mrs. Shruti Srivastava** are willing to sell the schedule property in favour of my Client **Mr. Ramanuj Vidyanta** and **Mrs. Harsha Vatnani** free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the below mentioned his Counsel Mr. RADESH .K, Office at Third Floor, Above Favara Car World, SMN Complex, Whitefield Main Road, Thubarahalli, Bangalore. within 07 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Residential 3BHK Apartment bearing **Flat No: 461** in Sixth Floor, **Block/Wing-4,** measuring **2000 Square Feet** of super built up area along with **Two** Covered Car Parking space in the Basement Floor and **568 Square Feet** of undivided share in the Project known as **"DSR SUNRISE TOWERS",** Constructed on the Property bearing Eastern Portion of Sy No: 137/1 measuring 1 Acre 16 ¼ Guntas (1 Acre 16.04 Guntas) bearing BBMP Katha No: 507 (Carved out of Old Sy No: 137/1 and Re Sy No: 137/4) and Portion of Sy No: 137/1 and Re Sy No: 137/5 measuring 1 Acre 20 Guntas in all totally measuring 2 Acres 36.04 Guntas, Amalgamated BBMP Katha No: 491, Situated at Channasandra Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk.

Contact : **Mr. RADESH BE,** LL.B, LL.M
Director - MKM Legal Solutions Pvt Ltd.
e-mail id: radesh@mkmlegalsolutions
Contact No: +91 6363864626

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
Vijaraz Syndicate

Regional Office South, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560004. PH : 080-26548864.

E-AUCTION NOTICE

SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES THROUGH E-AUCTION (ONLINE AUCTION) UNDER RULES 8(6) & (9) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002

Notice is hereby given to the effect that the immovable properties described herein, taken possession under the provisions of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, will be sold by inviting tenders on the following terms & conditions. E auction arranged by the service provider **M/s. Antares Systems Ltd.** through the website **https://www.bankeauctionwizard.com**

Sl. No.	1) Name of the Borrower / Guarantor(s) 2) Name of the Branch and Secured Creditor	1) Secured Debt outstanding 2) Possession type 3) Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	1) Last date of deposit of EMD & KYC documents 2) EMD A/c no. 3) IFSC code 4) Bid Factor	1. Date of Auction 2. Time of Auction 3. Date & Time of Inspection
1	1) **BORROWER (S) : (1) Sri. Shivashankar G (2) Smt. Mangala Shankar** **Both are at :** No.10 & 11, Khata No. 65/7, Parappana Agrahara, Electronic City, Bengaluru – 560100. 2) Canara Bank **- Ashoka Pillar Branch** **Phone No. : 080-26563310/26568681.**	1) Rs. 16,68,596.47 plus further interest & charges 2) Symbolic 3) Rs.91,30,000/- 4) Rs.9,13,000/-	1) 27.04.2023 before 04.00 p.m 2) 209272946 3) CNRB0000428 4) Rs.50,000/-	1. 28.04.2023 2. 11.00 am to 12.00 noon 3. 26.04.2023 between 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm.
	Description of the immovable Property - All that piece and parcel of the Property standing in the name of Sri. G.Shivashankar at Khata No.65/7, House No. 10&11, Parappana Agrahara Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru-560100, Dimensions (58'+20')/2 X 45' (1755sq.ft) and bounded : **East by :** Private Property, **West by :** Road, **North by :** House No.12 and **South by :** Road.			

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please logon to our website **http://www.canarabank.com** under "E-Auction" or contact the respective branches.

Place : Bangalore
Date : 27.03.2023

Authorized Officer
Canara Bank

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15% of the 267 insolvency cases admitted in company law tribunals during October-December 2022 reached resolution, the IBBI data showed.

No takers for shares worth ₹50k crore & ₹5,685 cr dividends

Shares and dividends worth thousands of crores remain unclaimed due to reasons like physical holding of shares, inheritance dispute, etc

SACHIN KUMAR @Mumbai

IT is common to find investors glued to a phone or a computer screen to know about the price of their shares, but there are some people who completely forget about their shares. There are unclaimed shares worth thousands of crores that are waiting for their rightful owners.

According to the Investor Education Protection Fund (IEPF), the value of unclaimed dividends was ₹5,685 crore at the end of November last year. Similarly, there were around 116.88 crore unclaimed shares as of November end last year. While there are no official figures regarding the value of unclaimed shares, experts say that the total value of such shares in IEPF could be around ₹50,000 crore.

Unclaimed shares and dividends rising

The number of unclaimed shares and dividends have been growing consistently. The total number of unclaimed shares stood at 91.9 crore at the end of March 2021 which grew to 105.6 crore at the end of March 2022, according to IEPF. Similarly, the total unclaimed amount grew from ₹4,816 crore at the end of March 2021 to ₹5,262 crore at the end of March 2022.

If a shareholder does not claim dividends for seven consecutive years due to any reason, then the shares are termed as unclaimed and get transferred to the Investor Education & Protection Fund Authority. Every year a new set of unclaimed dividends and shares are transferred to the IEPF.

There are several reasons behind the rise in the number of unclaimed shares and dividends. Many investors did not convert their shares from physical form to demat form and over a period of time misplaced their share certificates.

"In several cases, shareholders have passed away and the legal heirs of the investors are unaware of the investments or have not been able to get the shares transmitted in their names due to any inheritance dispute. Also, when investors do not update their contact information due to change in address over the years or settling abroad, they stop receiving any dividend cheques, correspondences and certificates," Ankit Garg, Founder, Garg Law Chambers told TNIE.

RIGHTFUL DUES

	Value of unclaimed dividends (in ₹crore)	Number of unclaimed shares (in ₹crore)
2022-23 #	5,685.25	116.88
2021-22	5,262.25	105.5
2020-21	4,816.03	91.9
2019-20	4,310.36	79.3
2018-19	2,423.19	64.8
2017-18	2,016.72	47.3

Source- IEPF | # figures as on as on 30.11.2022

"Even shares held in a demat account become unclaimed and get transferred to the IEPF Authority because the demat accounts and linked bank accounts have become inoperative and dormant and the investors are not encashing dividend cheques coming to their addresses," he added.

How to recover unclaimed shares, dividends

There is no centralised database which provides comprehensive information of unclaimed shares and dividends across all the companies. Although the Companies Act and IEPF Rules mandate the listed entities to publish a list of such investors and unpaid dividends every year on their website for investors to find out, however, there are over 6,000 listed companies and it's very difficult for a small investor to go through the individual websites of all companies.

IEPF Authority has created an online portal where information can be searched using the investor's name, father's name, folio number etc. For filing refunds with the Authority, investors can make an online application on the website of the authority (www.iepf.gov.in). These refunds are settled after verification of the claims by the companies.

However, this portal does not offer complete details to cover information about all the companies. Also, there are issues like name mismatch or spelling errors due to which it is not possible to search for such information in a centralised database.

To get hold of unclaimed dividends and shares, the investors or the legal heirs can look for their old documents such as share certificates, dividend warrants, annual reports and then reach out to the respective companies and their registrars.

"We have created our proprietary database with the most comprehensive list of investors with unpaid dividends and whose shares have been transferred to the IEPF Authority from various public sources and through our Data Mining and Analytics Team. We have helped hundreds of families trace unclaimed investments worth more than ₹500 crore and our advisory team has further helped such investors in getting these investments to their accounts," Sanchit Garg, Co-Founder of GLC Wealth Advisor, a firm which specialises in the field of unclaimed wealth recovery, told TNIE.

For investors and legal heirs to claim back such investments, the first step is to have a complete list and information about their old investments. In many cases, families do not have proper documents or are completely unaware of their investments in which case it is very difficult for them to fetch the relevant information to start the process.

"My father's stock in Mayur Uniquoters was stuck for a couple of decades. One of my friends recommended reaching out to a firm specialising in recovery of unclaimed shares and dividends. They were able to search the stocks and also told us about some other stocks that we had completely forgotten," Abhay Khetan, Senior Associate at Capital One told this newspaper. "Within a few months, we received all our stocks with very minimal involvement," he added.

MONEY MATTERS

Financial year-end thoughts on money

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

As the financial year ends, you are most likely fretting over your taxes. Come April, a new set of tax rules apply. The Budget 2023-24 provides relief under the new tax regime to all. It will be the default tax system. You must opt for the old tax regime of exemptions each year.

The last-minute rush to meet tax savings obligations is unnecessary. You need to get your financial house in order with the help of technology. There is much less paperwork involved today than ever before.

Put worries aside

You are constantly worried about your finances. You have long-term and short-term financial goals. Towards the end of the financial year, you are concerned about your rising tax bills. If your income rises, taxes will rise. There is a time in your career you need to come to terms with that. There is no escape from taxes if you live in India, as the government has made it clear that India is not a tax haven like Mauritius or Cayman Island. It is not a place where anyone with money can escape taxation.

Even if you do not pay direct tax, you pay goods and services or indirect taxes. The best way out would be to focus on knowledge and financial planning. Getting a competent financial advisor should help with managing your investments and taxes. You must clearly understand the difference between 'tax avoidance' and 'tax evasion'.

Tax avoidance allows you to find legitimate ways in the tax rules to minimize the impact of the tax. For the salaried, deductions and exemptions are clear. Tax avoidance is possible for professionals and small businesses through proper income and expenditure management.

Focus on expenditure

In an era of high inflation and rising interest rates, you may want to hold back on non-essential expenditures. You can save money while shopping in bulk for household items. There is a constant barrage of messages from shopping establishments that are online or offline, your bank and others enticing you with offers. You must curb the urge to spend on every other offer that comes your way. You may want to decide on a monthly budget for essential and non-essential and find deals that fit into it. By determining your spending days in advance, you can automatically put out unnecessary expenses in commuting and eating out. Tight control over your spending should help you balance your monthly budget and create a surplus for investing. That step-up systematic investment plan you have been considering adding to your investments could emerge from your expenses.

Monthly budget

By determining your spending days in advance, you can automatically put out unnecessary expenses.Tight control over your spending should help you balance your monthly budget.

mutual

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Make your money work

While you control your urges to spend in an inflationary era, that does not mean you need to sacrifice your dreams. You must convert your dreams into short-term and long-term financial goals. If you do not wish to curb expenditure, you can work harder and look to increase your income. As you invest regularly, you could make your money work for you. For example, if you invested every month for ten years in a diversified equity fund of large and mid-cap companies, you would have made a decent return of 15% annually. That is good enough to cover the average inflation in the economy.

After 15 or 20 years, that kind of return can create serious wealth. It is true that future returns are not guaranteed in the stock market and cannot be based on past returns. However, top companies tend to do better than the average GDP growth in an economy. As a thumb rule, they should deliver a profit growth at twice the rate of the GDP growth.

Most global institutions like the International Monetary Fund or the World Bank expect India to grow at a sustainable rate of 6-7% annually for the foreseeable future. That means top-listed companies should generate profit growth per the thumb rule. The more you manage to invest each month, the faster you can achieve your short-term and long-term financial goals. While you sweat to earn more, your money can sweat for you too.

MONEY-WISE

WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM YOUR ADVISOR?

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM

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MANY people who want to invest do so on their own. Many others are overwhelmed by the enormity of the situation and do not do anything other than the minimum investing – for tax purposes.

Now with the amendments to the Income Tax Act, all the investment related deductions (ppf, nps, pf, elss, life premium) have been removed. Even the expenses related deductions (housing loan, medical insurance, etc.) have been removed.

However, we are still left with our goals – children related, and retirement related being the primary needs for which money gets saved or invested. What are skills required to handle your own investments? This is the best question to ask – instead of asking whether you should seek the help of an advisor.

Two major requirements are – Investment skills and Emotional skills. Do you have investment management skills? Means do you understand asset classes, asset allocation, expected returns, standard deviation, dramatic drawdowns, deep recession and waiting for the long term. Do you understand portfolio construction, portfolio sizing, comparison with benchmark, taxation – clubbing provisions, converting current income to capital gains, etc.

If you do understand all this you may not need an investment manager. If you have these skills you may have the maturity to realise that 'Investments are for the long term, and the process is dull and boring'. This is like eating Daal-chawal, idli, and Dahi-chawal all your life, KNOWING that it is dull and boring – but it can't kill you. However, neither Index investing or daal-chawal is a topic that you can discuss at parties.

Investment management is about understanding risk and applying it generally to all portfolios. However, successful investing has an emotional side also!

Are you capable of doing goal-based investing (tactical asset allocation vs Strategic asset allocation), assessing the time based goals (daughter's class 12 will happen in 2031, but the car can be replaced in 2029 or 2033 depending on cash-flows and how the market is behaving). Knowing how much to fund children's education, life insurance and medical insurance needs, filing tax returns, staying calm during turbulent times, not getting carried away either by a bull or a bear market. You should also know how to manage your goals – right from whether the goals are realistic or are you punching far above your weight or far below your weight? Have you made your will, got the nomination done for all your investments.

Can you understand risk and manage it alone without any help? Are you happy not to talk about your investments and build it over say the next 30 years? Will you handle the Annuity buying? When will you buy Annuities and will you buy it in 3 lots or in a lump-sum?

How much help do you and your spouse need from your CA, your investment relationship managers, your children and / or your parents?

Will you be able to bring up the topic of Retirement and Will making – with your parents? Will you be able to sit with your children and talk about money, insurance, etc?

See how many of these functions you can do (and are willing to do today without postponing to a later date?)

Answer all these questions honestly, and you will know whether you need an advisor or not.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Removal of tax advantage to debt funds a blow to corp bond market

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

THE removal of tax advantage on long-term debt fund investments will be a setback for bond markets, especially the corporate bond market in India. Experts believe since debt mutual funds play a key role in price discovery and liquidity of Indian bond markets, the loss tax of advantage might derail the development of the bond market in India.

"With lower incremental flows expected into duration debt funds going forward, this tax change will be a setback for the development of our bond markets," says Chirag Mehta, CIO, Quantum AMC.

The outstanding stock of corporate bonds in India at the end of December 2022 was worth ₹ 40 lakh crore, of which mutual funds subscribed 16% of them. The share of outstanding corporate bonds is 17% of GDP, which is much lower than South Korea (80%) and Malaysia (60%) and China (35%).

The size of the government bond market, in comparison, was ₹86 lakh crore as on 31 December 2022.

Recently, the government removed tax benefits on long-term investment in debt mutual funds – any fund which has more than 35% allocation to debt securities. Now, any gains from such funds, irrespective of the holding period, would be taxed at the slab rates. The long-term capital gains from debt funds would cease to get the indexation benefit because of the latest change in tax laws.

At present, capital gains arising from transfer of mutual fund units, other than equity-oriented funds that are held for more than three years are considered as long term and are taxed at 20% with indexation benefit.

Mutual funds have been the source of money for corporates and NBFCs. If inflows into mutual funds slow down due to the removal of tax advantage, they will have to go to banks who will charge more on lending.

Debt or debt-oriented mutual funds have assets under management of over ₹15 lakh crore (out of the around ₹40 lakh crore total AUM). These funds mobilise around ₹7-8 lakh crore every month on a gross basis. Most of these funds invest in government and corporate bonds, t-bills and commercial papers, etc.

EXPRESS READ

Paytm gets 15-day extension

New Delhi: One97 Communications, which operates Paytm, has 15 days more to apply for the online payment aggregator licence for its subsidiary PPSL, a regulatory filing said. The RBI in November rejected its application for a payment aggregator licence.

Reliance Capital auction: Bidders start pulling out

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

All efforts of the lenders to maximise the realisation from the corporate insolvency resolution process of Reliance Capital might come to a naught as bidders have started pulling out of the bidding process. This could even mean Reliance Capital might go for liquidation.

Sources told TNIE that two main bidders Torrent Investments and IIHL of Hinduja Group have expressed inability to go ahead with the second round of auction. Torrent Investments has conveyed to the lenders that the company is not willing to participate in the second round of auction, while Hinduja Group has also said it wants to withdraw its post-auction revised bid of ₹9,000 crore and retain the old offer of ₹8,110 crore made in the first auction held on 21 December 2022.

Other bidders -- Cosmea Financial and Piramal -- have written to the Administrator seeking refund of their Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of ₹75 crore each, as both the companies do not wish to further participate in the ongoing resolution process.

The latest developments come as a big setback for the lenders who were hoping to maximise the realisation from the insolvency process by conducting a second round of auction, with a base price of ₹9,500 crore. Sources said if lenders and bidders fail to reach a workable solution to end the stalemate, Reliance Capital might go for liquidation. Only recently the Supreme Court gave a go-ahead to the lenders for the second round of auctions.

Torrent Investments, which emerged as the highest bidder in the first round of auction on 21 December with a bid of ₹ 8,640 crore had opposed the second round of auction.

Two independent valuers -- RBSA and Duff & Phelps -- have pegged the liquidation value of Reliance Capital at ₹13,000 crore, which is higher than the Torrent's highest bid of ₹8,640 crore. Hinduja Group, which was the second highest bidder in the first round, had revised its bid after the auctions and offered to pay ₹9,000 crore in upfront cash. Torrent opposed the IIHL's post-auction revised bid of ₹9,000 crore as invalid, and challenged IIHL's revised bid and the second round of auction as well in the NCLT.

According to bankers involved in the process, Torrent in the CoC meeting held on 25 March suggested conducting a Swiss Challenge auction with their earlier bid of ₹8,640 crore as the threshold. If lenders agree to this, Torrent will have the first right to match any counter offer from IIHL of Hinduja Group, the source said.

Jadeja promoted, Rahul demoted in BCCI annual contracts

Ravindra Jadeja won a promotion to Grade A+ as the BCCI released its annual list of centrally contracted players for the 2022-23 season. One player who has been demoted, though, to Grade B is KL Rahul, who was dropped for the last two Tests of the recently held Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

Multiple withdrawals, 'mishandling' & claims hit FIDE Women's GP in Delhi

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @ Chennai

THE New Delhi leg of the FIDE Women's Grand Prix, a qualifier for the Candidates, descended into farce even before the first move. The tournament was supposed to begin on Saturday but was postponed by 24 hours after an extraordinary sequence of events culminated with multiple contestants withdrawing from the meet.

A good 10 days before the tournament was supposed to begin, Ukraine's Muzychuk sisters, Anna and Mariya, withdrew. While both parties remained tight-lipped over the withdrawals, it was speculated that the sizable number of Russians in the draw (three) was the reason behind it.

The drama began on the morning of March 24 as Kazakhstan's Zhansaya Abdumalik withdrew a day before the event's original start date. According to her version of events, she arrived on Friday morning but wasn't greeted by anybody at the airport. In a statement to ChessBase India, she had said: "I arrived at the airport at 1.30am and they forgot to meet me," she claimed. "I tried to contact the person who was supposed to wait for me. He didn't check his messages for one-and-a-half hours. I did everything they said in our email before we arrived but there was nothing at the airport." Abdumalik also alleged that the hotel the players were put up wasn't great.

Following Abdumalik's withdrawal, several of the non-Indian players in the draw sent a letter to FIDE urging them to reschedule the event. "We are composing this letter to underline that things in women's chess, especially regarding professional organisation and care of tournaments in the past went in a very unfortunate way. Some of us are emotionally down and upset. From the professional point of view as well as speaking to for our colleague Zhansaya Abdumalik, we would suggest to cancel and postpone the event." (This letter, signed by contestants Elisabeth Paehtz, Aleksandra Goryachkina, Kateryna Lagno, Bibisara Assaubayeva, Polina Shuvalova and Abdumalik, is on Paehtz's instagram page).

This letter was drafted by the competitors after it emerged that Abdumalik was withdrawing even as the ceremonial lighting of the lamp took place during Saturday's Opening Ceremony. With the event already in disarray, FIDE had no choice but to move it by a day.

In a statement issued to the remaining players in the draw, FIDE president, Arkady Dvorkovich, said: "I would like to extend our sincerest apologies for the mishandling of the Women's Grand Prix tournament in India," he had noted. "We deeply regret the problems and inconveniences you have experienced, which has led to one player withdrawing from the tournament. We highly appreciate your openness and would like to assure you that we are committed to addressing the issues that have been raised regarding this tournament and FIDE women events in general. We are also determined to improve the level of communication with the participants."

However, FIDE rejected the idea of a postponement because of the cramped nature of the calendar. "In case of postponement, the current FIDE calendar does not allow space for strong assurances when the tournament can be held. It is also important not to create a precedent that the whole event can be terminated and other players' plans influenced due to the decision of a player to withdraw."

While FIDE was firefighting to save the event, Assaubayeva launched a stunning broadside at her compatriot. On her instagram page, she accused Abdumalik of making up lies (Paehtz defended Abdumalik on her Instagram page) and directly held her responsible for placing the tournament in jeopardy. Her attack was bizarre to say the least as she was one of the signees in the letter sent to Dvorkovich.

A few hours later Abdumalik issued a strong rebuttal to Assaubayeva "... despite all the ugly lies and hypocrisy of Bibisara Assaubayeva, I do not regret my decision and am convinced that chess players deserve to play in safe and decent conditions." One hour before Sunday's rescheduled round one, Paehtz also withdrew as she felt the new rules would be unfair vis-a-vis 11 players as opposed to 12.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Mumbai Indians were crowned Women's Premier League champions on Sunday. They beat Delhi Capitals in final by seven wickets at the Brabourne Stadium | SPORTZPICS

Dominant Mumbai thrash Delhi to lift first WPL title

GOMESH S @ Mumbai

BOTH Issy Wong and Nat Sciver-Brunt essayed their roles to perfection as Mumbai Indians won the inaugural edition of the Women's Premier League. Chasing 132, Sciver-Brunt's unbeaten 60 helped Harmanpreet Kaur & Co. beat Meg Lanning's team with three balls to spare.

Coming into the final, all the pre-match talk centred around the two captains but it was the young Wong who set the tone of the match as she broke the spine of the Delhi Capitals' batting unit with the wickets of Shafali Verma, Alice Capsey and Jemimah Rodrigues. After that, they relied on Shikha Pandey and Radha Yadav, both of whom scored 27, to lift the total beyond 130. Mumbai Indians lost a few early wickets. They also lost Kaur but prevailed in the end as the nerveless Sciver-Brunt scooped Capsey for the winning runs.

Brief scores: Delhi Capitals 131/9 in 20 ovs (Lanning 35, Wong 3/42, Matthews 3/5, Kerr 2/18) **lost to** Mumbai Indians 134/3 in 19.3 ovs (Sciver-Brunt 60 n.o., Kaur 37).

Nikhat Zareen (L) and Lovlina Borgohain in action during their respective World Championships finals on Sunday | PARVEEN NEGI

Beyond the boundary: Long and short of it

GOMESH S @ Mumbai

IN the first week of the Women's Premier League, a graphic during the game between Delhi Capitals and UP Warriorz took everyone by surprise. The boundary dimensions showed that the fine-leg boundary on one side was 42 metres.

A 42-metre boundary for a T20 franchise tournament featuring the top international stars was always going to create a buzz. After all, most of these players had just finished playing in a T20 World Cup where the boundary lengths were largely close to the upper ICC limit (The playing conditions for Women's T20Is state that no boundary shall be longer than 64 meters, and no boundary should be shorter than 54.86 metres).

The intention was to seemingly ensure high-scoring games so that fans were entertained. Even then, the India-Australia T20I series that was played in the same venues as that of the WPL had boundaries closer to 60 metres. Some say, this being a domestic tournament, the BCCI had kept the boundaries shorter than that of the internationals.

Did it have a massive effect on the number of sixes that were hit? Purely on perception, it appears to have. So much so that many, including the commentators, kept reiterating the advantage of the shorter boundary and how there were more sixes because of it. Among fans, especially those watching such a kind of women's T20 tournament for the first time, it seemed to have created an impression that it is reducing the quality of cricket. However, the numbers tell a different story.

DISTANCE OF SIXES TILL ELIMINATOR*

Range	No. of sixes
<60m	12
60-69	43
70-79	46
>79	6

* Includes only 106 of the 155 sixes hit till the eliminator for which the distance was shown on broadcast

SIXES FROM INDIANS TILL ELIMINATOR

Name	Team	No. of Sixes
Shafali Verma	DC	12
Kiran Navgire	UPW	8
D Hemalatha	GG	8
Harmanpreet Kaur	MI	3
Harleen Deol	GG	2
Kanika Ahuja	RCB	2
Smriti Mandhana	RCB	2
Yastika Bhatia	MI	2
Shreyanka Patil	RCB	1
Radha Yadav	DC	1
Richa Ghosh	RCB	6

But before getting into the data, a few things. The boundaries should not have been as small as 42m for such a tournament. In fact, the tournament playing conditions tell as much. "No boundary shall be longer than 65 yards (59.43m), and no boundary should be shorter than 55 yards (50.29m)," it reads. The key point to be noted here is that the WPL broadcast showed the distance from the batting crease and not the centre of the pitch as per the playing conditions, making it all the more confusing. While it makes for a separate discussion, what this doesn't reflect is the quality of the six-hitting that has been on display.

Until the final, 155 sixes were hit of which 106 had the distance shown by the broadcasters. Among the 106, only 12 landed inside 60 metres. 43 sixes were between 60-69, 46 were between 70-79 and six hits travelled over 80 metres with the longest one (94m) coming from Sophie Devine's bat. This means 88 per cent of the sixes from the 106 are over 60 metres. And that is essentially what most of these players are used to hitting in international cricket. They had done the same here as well.

Even if one has to try and understand how it looks among sixes for which the distance was not shown on broadcast, of the 49 sixes for which the distance was not shown, only 17 were hit square of the wicket (point, square leg and fine leg) where the boundaries were largely shorter than 55 metres (some of them went well over the rope, but there is no data to measure). If one has to look from an Indian point of view, of the 44 sixes that were hit by local players, only five, (including those that went behind square), were less than 60 metres.

Now, T20 is a fast-paced format and often, the perceptions, especially among the larger audience, are often created based on what is seen rather than the data that slip through during a contest. As was the case with the boundary length here, which made for a talking point throughout the tournament. And looking at the numbers above, it seems clear that the 42-metre boundary doesn't entirely reflect the six-hitting prowess or the quality of the players. As is often the case, there is more to it.

Mumbai Indians and India skipper Harmanpreet Kaur on the eve of the final was asked if the ropes should be pushed back for next year. Her candid response created raucous laughter at the press conference room in the CCI Brabourne Stadium. "We're not the ones who've put the ropes. The ones who have, you (the media) should ask them. It's not something that's in our hands, right? It's the officials, you've got to ask them," she said.

Kaur might not have said it directly in as many words, but the players have — the data says so too — with their big hits. Come 2024, boundary length is something the BCCI would definitely be taking a relook at.

SWITCH HIT FOR NIKHAT, LOVLINA

The two prove their class in new weight categories by emerging world champions

ANMOL GURUNG @ New Delhi

BEFORE the IBA World Championships came to life, there were some unanswered questions in regards to the future of certain boxers in the Indian camp. Two of the country's renowned pugilists, Nikhat Zareen and Lovlina Borgohain, were on a mission. With the Paris Olympics in mind, Nikhat moved to the 50kg category (she was 52) while Lovlina was going to compete in the middleweight category (75kg) for the first time in the marquee event. Even though they had competed in those new weight categories in the past, they were yet to be tested at the elite level.

It was time for them to recalibrate and find that flow that they are used to. The change might seem insignificant for an outsider but it was noteworthy as it requires quite a lot for a boxer to get in tune with the new category. Moreover, with both the categories being part of the Olympic programme, it was a given that rival nations would be sending quality boxers. Since the competition got underway, they have not just survived but managed to prosper.

Sunday, however, was a stern test for Nikhat. Having endured some hard punches on the night, her lips were swollen after the conclusion of the final. Up against Nguyen Thi Tam of Vietnam, Nikhat was asked plenty of questions. As she was whisked away from the ring with the Tricolour wrapped around her shoulders, her face reflected myriad emotions. It was yet another milestone for her and more importantly, she is now showing she's a serious contender for a medal in the upcoming Olympics in Paris.

MEDAL TALLY (TOP 5)

Nation	G	S	B	Total
India	4	0	0	4
China	3	1	3	7
Russia	1	1	1	3
Italy	1	1	0	2
Brazil	1	0	1	2
Morocco	1	0	1	2

The bout itself was a cagey one with plenty of clenching involved. Both finalists were pulled aside by the referee and handed warnings. Nikhat, who has made a habit of starting on a strong note, pocketed the first round. However, Nyugen, after getting some feedback from her coaches, made the contest interesting. Nikhat was even warned for holding her opponent. She lost the round 2-3. The two had saved the best for last. Nyugen clearly had the momentum but Nikhat was still ahead. Both boxers threw some heavy punches and were given standing count. But Nikhat maintained her calm. "I'm delighted. I have become a world champ for the second time. This weight category is part of the Olympics so I'm delighted. Today's bout was the toughest for me. She is also an Asian champ and this is a good thing because the next event is the Asian Games and I could meet her there. I'll work even harder," she said.

Narrow win

Lovlina also proved she belongs to the 75kg category. After the Tokyo Olympics bronze, she had a subdued show in the 2022 edition of the marquee event and had suffered further pain during the 2022 Commonwealth Games. Moving to 75kg during the Asian Championships had yielded a solid return. But that being a continental event, she was yet to put her skills to the test against bigger and experienced pros. In this event, she had already shown plenty to suggest that she is a certified contender for medals. She had beaten proven pugilists from the new weight category to earn herself a title shot.

Up against Caitlin Parker in the gold-medal contest, Lovlina was probed heavily. After edging the first round, Lovlina clearly seemed to have lost the plot in the second and was too defensive. Caitlin was sharp and managed to penetrate Lovlina's defence and capture the round. In the decider, the narrative didn't change. The Australian was the aggressor (she seemed to catch Lovlina often) and was operating like she was behind (on score) while Lovlina was forced to move around and use the pockets of spaces around the ring. At the time of announcement of the verdict, there was much suspense. However, the judges, after the bout review, deemed Lovlina the winner by 5-2 verdict. The Australian camp was clearly not happy.

"I had a lot of stress before the final. But I followed the coaches' instructions and I was not fully successful but I did find quite a bit of success and I'm really happy," she said. "This medal was very important for me, we had put in a lot of hard work as a team. My target was to win gold and make myself ready for the Asian Games."

EXPRESS READ

South Africa in record T20I chase

CENTURION: South Africa completed the highest successful chase in T20I to reach 259-4 and beat West Indies by six wickets in a record-breaking game on Sunday. West Indies made 258-5, meaning the match was the first T20I where 500 or more runs were scored. **Brief scores:** WI 258/5 in 20 ovs (Charles 118, Mayers 51) lost to SA 259/4 in 18.5 ovs (De Kock 100).

Indian lifters bag two bronze

NEW DELHI: Indian weightlifters Dhanush Loganathan (49kg) and Jyoshna Sabar (40kg) won bronze medals in their respective categories on the opening day of the IWF World Youth Championships in Durres, Albania. Jyoshna had a combined lift of 115kg (53kg in snatch and 62kg in clean & jerk) as she came in third.

Gauff exits Miami Open

MIAMI GARDENS (FLORIDA): Coco Gauff let a big lead slip away and wound up dropping the last five games of a mistake-filled 6-7 (8), 7-5, 6-2 loss to Anastasia Potapova in the third round of the Miami Open. Potapova now will face No. 23 Zheng Qinwen in the fourth round. Zheng beat No. 12 Liudmila Samsonova 5-7, 7-6 (5), 6-3.

Samra bags 50m 3P bronze in WC

AGENCIES @ Bhopal

INDIA'S Sift Kaur Samra came up with an inspired performance to clinch her second senior medal at the international level, beating a tough field to win the 50m rifle 3P bronze at the ISSF Rifle/Pistol World Cup on Sunday.

On a day when China continued their domination, with Zhang Qiongyue winning gold in the event, Samra scored a total of 403.9 points in the ranking round to finish third. In the final, Zhang defeated her Czech rival 16-8.

CHAMPIONS

Satwik-Chirag win Swiss Open title

AGENCIES @ Basel

INDIAN men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty capped off their impressive campaign with a title win, beating China's Ren Xiang Yu and Tan Qiang in the final of the Swiss Open Super 300 badminton tournament on Sunday. The second-seeded Indian pair, the 2022 World Championships bronze medallist, was solid in defence and dished out an attacking game to outwit the world No. 21 pair 21-19, 24-22 in 54 minutes. It was the first title of the season for India with Satwik and Chirag putting to rest the disappointment of last week's All England Championships where they had exited in the second round.

Overall, it was the fifth career world tour title for the Indian pair, who had claimed the India Open and French Open last year, besides securing the Thailand Open in 2019 and Hyderabad Open in 2018. Satwik and Chirag had also won the Commonwealth Games gold in 2022. The title run also meant India continued its love affair with the Swiss Open, with PV Sindhu (2022), Saina Nehwal (2011, 2012), Kidambi Srikanth (2015) and HS Prannoy (2016) claiming the crown in the past.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty (L) with their trophies | TWITTER

The two pairs had a contrasting march to the final with Satwik and Chirag playing three three-game matches on their way to the summit clash, while Tan and Ren didn't drop a game. Tan had forged a world No. 10 pairing with He Jiting in 2019, winning the 2021 World Championships silver, while Ren had been ranked as high as 16 with his former partner Ou Xuanyi.

Spain defeat Norway 3-0; Wales draw with Croatia

AP @ Paris

NEW faces dominated European Championship qualifying as Spain coach Luis de la Fuente swept aside Norway in his first game in charge and a Wales forward rescued a dramatic draw in his first international match.

Best known until now for coaching Spain's youth teams, De la Fuente didn't have to deal with Norway's striker Erling Haaland, who missed the game with a groin injury. The 3-0 victory extended Spain's record of 23 consecutive home wins in qualifying games for the European Championship. In the other game in Group A, Scotland beat Cyprus 3-0 in coach Steve Clarke's first match since extending his contract through to the 2026 World Cup.

Meanwhile, Nathan Broadhead had a dream debut for Wales as the substitute salvaged a 1-1 draw with a goal in stoppage time against Croatia. Also in Group D, Turkey beat Armenia 2-1.

At least 14 people have been killed in southern Somalia after torrential rains triggered flash floods that have caused havoc in several towns and villages. Bridges, roads and houses have been damaged

Dozens of people on Sunday joined Hong Kong's first authorised protest since the lifting of major Covid-19 restrictions under unprecedentedly strict rules, including wearing a numbered badge around their necks

EXFILE • ENVIRONMENT

North Sea shell survey brings out volunteers

Hundreds of volunteers descended on the beaches of the North Sea coast this weekend to collect sea shells as a measure of the sea's biological diversity

FUN DAY OUT

While there is a serious scientific purpose to the exercise, it is also a fun day out on the coast for Belgian, French and Dutch families with kids

FINDING DIFFERENT SPECIES

"We found mussels, oysters, cockles, at least six different species," 40-year-old Perales said. "It's a great activity, despite the weather."

SORTING SHELLS

On Saturday, Natascha Perales and her children marked ***a wide spiral pattern on the sand in Middelkerke, in Flanders, and filled their plastic buckets with shells***

The harvests were taken to a sorting centre run by volunteers, to be counted and divided up by species

Volunteers in Belgium, the Netherlands and France counted around 38000 shellfish | AFP

800 PEOPLE TOOK PART IN THE EVENT

The collections took place along 400 kilometres of coastline and around 800 people took part in three countries, with France joining the sixth annual event for the first time

38,000 SHELLS

In total, around 38,000 shells were brought in, roughly as many as in last year's event

AN INDICATOR OF BIODIVERSITY

"Shells are a good indicator of the state of biodiversity in the North Sea," explained Jan Seys, who organises the survey for the Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ)

15% SHELLS BELONGED TO EXOTIC SPECIES

"Last year, 15% of the shells found belonged to exotic species," he said, amid fears that foreign shellfish species might become an invasive danger to native organisms

"We have seen, for example the Atlantic Jackknife Clam appearing on our coasts."

EXAMINING MOLLUSCS: Near the beach, retired biologist Joris Hooze, 75, taught volunteers how to examine molluscs under his microscope and distinguish their differences

PREDATORY SEA SNAILS

The volunteers were also on the lookout for shells with holes in them, trying to measure the spread of predatory sea snails preying on shellfish

We've seen organisms that normally live in warm waters turning up more and more, It's a sign of climate change – 40-year-old Perales said

Restoring natural ecosystem

The European Union wants to clean up the seas around its coasts and ***restore the natural ecosystem by 2030.*** To do that, ***it has assigned 800 million euros in funding to the task***

Use of depleted uranium: a controversial ammunition

These munitions are part of the military arsenals of many countries

ENERGY

PARIS: Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday he would deploy depleted uranium ammunition if Ukraine received them, after Britain announced earlier this week it would be supplying Kyiv.

Depleted uranium munitions are highly effective at piercing armour plate, but their use is controversial.

The metal is toxic for the soldiers who use the weapons and for civilians in areas where they are fired.

What are depleted uranium munitions?

Depleted uranium is a byproduct of the process of enriching uranium, and is about 60% less radioactive than uranium in its natural state.

Uranium is an extremely dense metal—about 1.7 times more dense than lead. It is so hard that it does not change shape when it hits a target. So depleted uranium is used in shells and bombs to give them more power to punch through metal.

"This is a commonplace type of munition that is used particularly for its armour-piercing capabilities," United States National Security Council spokesman John Kirby said on Wednesday. Kirby said the munitions are not radioactive and "not anywhere close to going into" the sphere of nuclear weaponry.

Using depleted uranium shells is not banned under international law.

Who has used such weapons?

Depleted uranium munitions are part of the military arsenals of many countries, in particular those of the United States and Russia.

They were used in both Gulf wars in 1991 and 2003 and in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s. The Pentagon has acknowledged using depleted uranium ordnance twice in 2015 in raids against the Islamic State group in Syria.

Britain's announcement this week that it will provide such ammunition to Ukraine was denounced by Russia as a "serious" escalation of the war.

Do these munitions pose a health or environmental risk?

The United Nations Environment Programme defines depleted uranium as a heavy metal that is toxic and radioactive. Upon striking their target, depleted uranium shells release uranium oxide dust and fragments into the air.

In terms of health, the main risk of depleted uranium is not radioactivity but chemical toxicity, according to Canada's nuclear safety commission.

"Ingestion or inhalation of large quantities of DU can affect the kidney," the commission says.

And if a person breathes in a lot of uranium dust over an extended period of time, the main health worry is increased risk of lung cancer, says the panel.

A 30mm armor-piercing shell containing depleted uranium | AP

Soldiers affected by munitions

Depleted uranium munitions have been cited as one of the possible causes of health problems among people who fought in the Gulf wars or a potential cause of high levels of cancer and birth defects in the Iraqi city of Fallujah. But the role of the munitions in these problems has not been scientifically proven. Many studies have concluded that depleted uranium is toxic, but these results remain controversial.

Lebanon squabbles over clock change

TIME

BEIRUT: The Lebanese government's last-minute decision to delay the start of daylight savings time by a month until the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan resulted in mass confusion Sunday.

With some institutions implementing the change while others refused, many Lebanese have found themselves in the position of juggling work and school schedules in different time zones—in a country that is just 88 km at its widest point.

In some cases, the debate took on a sectarian nature, with many Christian politicians and institutions, including the small nation's largest church, the Maronite Church, rejecting the move.

The country normally sets its clocks forward an hour on the last Sunday in March, which aligns with most European countries. However, on Thursday Lebanon's government announced a decision by caretaker Prime Minister Najib Mikati to push the start of daylight savings to April 21.

No reason was given for the decision, but a video of a meeting between Mikati and Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri leaked to local media showed Berri asking Mikati to postpone the implementation of daylight savings time to allow Muslims to break their Ramadan fast an hour earlier.

Mikati responds that he had made a similar proposal but goes on to say that implementing the change would be difficult as it would cause problems in airline flight schedules, to which Berri interjects, "What flights?" After the postponement of daylight savings was announced, Lebanon's state airline, Middle East Airlines, said the departure times of all flights scheduled to leave from the Beirut airport between Sunday and April 21 would be advanced by an hour.

The country's two cellular telephone networks sent messages to people asking them to change the settings of their clocks to manual instead of automatic in order for the time not to change. While public institutions, in theory, are bound by government's decision, many private institutions, announced that they would ignore the decision.

5 planets to be visible in sky this week

SPACE

NEW YORK: Keep an eye to the sky this week for a chance to see a planetary hangout.

Five planets—Mercury, Jupiter, Venus, Uranus and Mars — will line up near the moon.

The best day to catch the whole group is Tuesday. You'll want to look to the western horizon right after sunset, said NASA astronomer Bill Cooke.

The planets will stretch from the horizon line to around halfway up the night sky. But don't be late: Mercury and Jupiter will quickly dip below the horizon around half an hour after sunset. The five-planet spread can be seen from anywhere on Earth, as long as you have clear skies and a view of the west.

"That's the beauty of these planetary alignments. It doesn't take much," Cooke said.

Maybe. Jupiter, Venus and Mars will all be pretty easy to see since they shine brightly, Cooke said. Venus will be one of the brightest things in the sky, and Mars will be hanging out near the moon with a reddish glow. Mercury and Uranus could be trickier to spot, since they will be dimmer.

A ROYAL STROLL

Princess Maria Chiara De Bourbon des Deux-Siciles walks with a lama as she takes part in the second edition of "La Marche des Animaux" (The Animals' Walk") along the "Promenade des Anglais" on the French riviera city of Nice | AFP

FACT OF THE MATTER

Mexico unable to protect porpoise

MARINE LIFE

Mexico acknowledged on Saturday it faces sanctions from the international wildlife body known as CITES for not doing enough to protect the vaquita marina, a small porpoise that is the world's most endangered marine mammal. The sanctions have not yet been announced, but they could make it difficult for Mexico to export some regulated animal and plant products like crocodile or snake skins, orchids and cactuses. Commercial seafood species like shrimp would not be affected, but ruling sets a precedent and some groups are pushing for seafood import bans. Studies estimate there may be only eight vaquitas remaining in Gulf of California.

Travel disruption hits Germany

PROTEST

An increased number of travellers in Germany boarded trains and planes on Sunday, a day before a major one-day strike that aims to bring the country's transportation system to a standstill. But even advance travel was met with disruption in some places as Munich airport already shut down because of the impending strike on Monday, and technical problems affecting German airline Lufthansa in Frankfurt led to flight delays and cancellations. Munich Airport, the country's second-busiest, said that the ver.di union was hitting it with two days of strikes and it has no regular passenger or cargo flights on either Sunday or Monday.

VANISHING ART

Coronation souvenirs boost struggling ceramics industry

TRADITION

STOKE-ON-TRENT: With an expert flick of a gilt-covered paint brush, a craftswoman puts the finishing touches to commemorative mugs marking the first coronation of a British monarch in 70 years.

Just six weeks before King Charles III is crowned at Westminster Abbey on May 6, an historic English pottery is working flat out to meet demand for the fine bone china souvenirs.

"You just feel so proud. There's been nothing like this since the queen's coronation," said Gary Fraser, production manager at Duchess China 1888 in the central English city of Stoke-on-Trent, home of the country's pottery industry.

Fraser, 57, whose father and grandfather also worked in the potteries, remembers them coming home with commemorative pieces from previous royal occasions such as Queen Elizabeth II's silver jubilee marking her 25th year on the throne in 1977.

Established in 1888 in Longton, one of the six towns that make up the city of Stoke-on-Trent, Duchess China has been making fine bone china for over 130 years.

The commemorative plates, mugs and other items Duchess China is making now were inspired by items produced in 1937 for the coronation of his grandfather King George VI.

A Pottery worker works on a range of fine bone china | AFP

The bold red, white and blue design incorporates the Tudor crown of English monarchs from the time of Henry VIII with the words "God Save The King" in large gold letters.

Prices range from £25 for a mug or £44.95 for a cup and saucer set. Produced using meticulous techniques honed over generations, each piece will go through the hands of over 20 craftspeople before it is finished. The factory is as busy as ever with three major royal events —the queen's platinum jubilee and her death last year, and now Charles's coronation—all in the space of less than 12 months. "Obviously, a coronation year (is) something we've never experienced before and something I don't think you can ever prepare for," said director Jason Simms.

The sharp decline of the Stoke-based potteries in recent decades, with many firms going bust, however, has made recruiting difficult. Fraser was working for Dudson, a firm that dated back to the very start of the 19th century, when it closed down in 2019. With so many firms having moved their production out of the country, staff have retired or disappeared into different industries, interrupting the time-honoured passing of skills .

California eases water restrictions

DROUGHT

California Gov Gavin Newsom ended some of the state's water restrictions on Friday because a winter of relentless rain and snow has replenished the state's reservoirs and eased fears of a shortage after three years of severe drought. Newsom was careful not to declare the drought to be over, noting water shortages remain in the Klamath River basin along the California-Oregon line and in densely populated Southern California, which relies heavily on the struggling Colorado River system to supply millions of people. But Newsom did say he would stop asking people to voluntarily cut their water use by 15%, a request he first made two years ago while standing at the edge of a nearly dry Lopez Lake in the state's Central Coast region Newsom's call for voluntary conservation had mixed results. Californians did reduce their water use, but only by 6.2% overall, according to State Water Resources Control Board.

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MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Dam burst

The dam forming Situ Gintung, an artificial lake in Indonesia, failed on this day in 2009 killing at least 99 people

THE AFTER-EFFECTS

The dam broke about 2 am, tearing through a low-lying valley and surprising residents in their sleep. Within minutes, neighbourhoods were engulfed by mud and water

RESCUE OPERATIONS

Hundreds gathered at the nearby Muhammadiyah University, pressed into service as an emergency center and makeshift morgue

CAUSE

Residents said hours of heavy rain may have caused 10-metre-high Situ Gintung dam to break and a nearly 50-acre lake to flood the area

Check out the events happening in the city

PG 2

Avin Thaliath
(@chef_avin), pastry chef and the director of Lavonne Academy of Baking Science And Pastry Arts, dishes out a food-related quiz in this weekly series. Be a real 'whisk' taker and let us know if you have what it bakes. Who knows, your dreams may crumb true.

GRUB HUB

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in CE. The first prize winner this week will win a voucher worth ₹2,000 from Gawky Goose **

THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1) Rabri 2) Pootharekulu
3) Shor bhaja

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1) Divyanka Shekhawat
2) Rajakumar T
3) Ravi Shankar TN

PIX| SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

***Negila Geregalu*, a biography of former PM HD Deve Gowda, recently translated into Kannada by Rosy D'Souza, presents readers with unexplored parts of Gowda's political journey**

LEGACY REDISCOVERED

DESE GOWDA

When HD Deve Gowda was unexpectedly chosen to lead the United Front coalition government following the 1996 general elections, the then chief minister of Karnataka knew he wouldn't last long as Prime Minister. Carrying only a suitcase worth of personal belongings, Gowda left for Delhi but was determined to make a mark. Eleven months later, when the coalition collapsed as he had anticipated, the impression he left on many was hardly impressive.

In his latest book, *Furrows in a Field*, journalist and author Sugata Srinivasraju shed new light on the former PM's short-yet-impactful stint at the helm of the country. Along with highlighting Gowda's achievements, the book delves deep into his journey as a state and national-level politician and how he used his goodwill to address some of India's most pressing issues at the time.

Originally brought out in English, the biography was has been translated into Kannada as *Negila Geregalu* by poet, translator and Srinivasraju's wife, Rosy D'Souza.

"I have had an intimate view into the making of *Furrows in a Field*, having watched Sugata research, develop and write it. I was one of the first people to read every chapter after it was written. And it always felt so close to Kannadigas. Of course, it has a national presence, so it needed to come out in English for the benefit of a larger audience. But it is also a book that has a local element to it, so it deserved to be brought out in Kannada as well," D'Souza says, adding, "Sugata could have translated it into Kannada himself, but once he completes a project, he tends to quickly move on, never to look back. So I took it upon myself to translate it."

During Gowda's tenure as PM, D'Souza was in college and remembers being impacted by the former's negative portrayal. But as she came to learn more about Gowda's life and accomplishments during the making of *Furrows in a Field*, D'Souza felt a great deal of personal shame for not bothering to find out the truth. "As I watched Sugata conduct his interviews and sift through years of research for the original and later on during the process of writing, I realised that Deve Gowda has suffered a great deal of injustice. The research started unearthing a number of accomplishments that had hitherto gone unnoticed, unspoken. When *Furrows in a Field* was released, we also heard a lot of Gowda's contemporaries talk highly of him. Yet the image that I remember of Gowda during his tenure as PM is one where he is found napping at his desk. He had an eye problem fairly early in his life and had gone through surgery. He couldn't bear light hitting his eyes, so he would close his eyes during public ceremonies. But that led to a negative portrayal," she says.

Limited channels of information available to the public, and Gowda's reluctance to engage in any sort of public relations campaign, according to D'Souza, only amplified the negativity surrounding his tenure as Prime Minister. "In those days, there was no social media. Once people got an image, it would remain etched in their minds and they would only speak of that. Because they didn't have access to a differing perspective. Deve Gowda never spoke about himself or his accomplishments nor did he make any attempts to clarify himself. He believed that his work should speak for himself," she adds.

BENGALURU-BASED CHILD PIANIST WINS BIG AT HIS FIRST INTERNATIONAL PIANO COMPETITION

HIGH note

DONNA EVA

NINE-year-old Aarav Lad has come far in his journey as a pianist, having started out at the age of five, he has already won big at his first international competition. Lad, a city-based student, was one of 120 competitors in the fifth International Music of the World contest. According to his parents, Ankita and Kapil Lad, Lad has always been an avid pianist from early on. "He has always had a penchant for playing the piano, we got Aarav a 32-key mini piano when he was four, he started learning formally at the age of five and has been learning ever since. Whatever activity Aarav picks up, he completely immerses himself in it and does it with a lot of focus. Right from the beginning, he leaned towards the western classical genre which has a large piano repertoire, and finds a lot of pleasure in learning new and challenging classical pieces. Over time, his repertoire has grown in complexity," Ankita says.

Competitors came from over 24 countries across the world, with Lad competing with solo pianists from the US, Russia, China, Canada and Germany. On March 18, he found that he had won second place in the Piano Solo category in his age group 9 to 11, being one of the youngest to bag the prize. He was the only Indian in the age group to win. "It feels very good to have won. It's my first competition and it's nice that I was able to win. My favourite composers are Chopin, Mozart, Beethoven and Liszt. While I play classical compositions, I hope to create my own in the future," he says.

Lad is currently being trained by prolific Belarussian concert pianists Natallia Kapylova and Liudmila Drazhnik. "We are incredibly proud of him. He has grown immensely with his current teachers. It may be too early to say, but when asked, he says he would want to be both a pianist and a mathematician! We would be happy for him to follow whichever path he chooses," Ankita says.

In the meantime, Lad has also shown a penchant for academics as well. "When Aarav is not playing piano, he's usually listening to classical music. He also enjoys solving Rubik's cubes and has participated and won in many competitions, he can solve the 3x3 cube in 10-11 seconds and the 2x2 in 3-4 seconds. He learnt when he was 6 and can solve 14-15 different types of cubes. He also loves Math, Physics and space, and has done well in many Indian and International Math Olympiads," Ankita says.

It's my first competition and it's nice that I was able to win. My favourite composers are Chopin, Mozart, Beethoven and Liszt —Aarav Lad, young pianist

Talking movies

Day 3 of the Bangalore International Film Festival (BIFFes) saw the screening South Asian movies and a masterclass on sound design

EXPRESS FEATURES

THE third day of the Bangalore International Film Festival opened to a lukewarm response. This year the festival is focusing on southern regional cinema, especially Kannada cinema. With technical glitches, the festival lacked the expected enthusiasm. Nonetheless, popular names from Sandalwood, Prakash Belawadi, Sumana Kittur and Mansore, managed to pull crowds.

The festival on March 26 had many Asian movies, primarily from India, South Korea and Sri Lanka. Oscar-winning movies *Everything Everywhere All At Once*, which won seven awards at the 95th Academy Awards, saw the longest queue with people thronging the space to catch a glimpse. "Today is my first day at the festival and I came here to watch *Everything Everywhere All at Once*. I am a huge fan of Michelle Yeoh ever since I watched *Crazy Rich Asians*. She won so many best actor awards. So I wanted to check out what the film is about," says Shilpa Rao.

Critically-acclaimed Kannada movies like *Kantara* by Rishab Shetty and *19.20.21* by Mansore also saw an enthusiastic response. "*Kantara* was one of the most spoken of 2022. Rishab Shetty represents Sandalwood in a very classy way. Though I have already watched it, many of my friends had not. Being non-Kannadigas, they wanted me to come along to help them understand cultural references," says Arjun Kamath, a visitor.

In the international film section, Iranian film *No Bears* by award-winning director Jafar Panahi was screened, which was attended by his son and filmmaker Panah Panahi. The festival also hosted a masterclass on sound design in cinema conducted by Renganath Ravee and Kannan Ganpath.

Visitors at BIFFes

PIC: NEEHAARIKA SINDHUJA

Prakash Belawadi at the film festival

CITY READ

Admission for evening MBA classes now open

Bangalore University's Canara Bank School of Management Studies (CBSMS), Jnanabharati campus is inviting qualified applicants for admission to open seats in its MBA evening programme. The online application site is already live, and the deadline to apply is March 31. Starting in 1998, CBSMS aspires to develop managers from students who can adapt to the working environment. On April 3, 2023, the list of candidates who will take the entrance exam will be released, and the test will be held on April 5 from 11 am to 1pm. For more details, visit Bangalore University's website bangaloreuniversity.ac.in.

Student engagement programme held

Merck India's University Relations organised a student engagement programme at New Horizons Engineering College. The event was held recently where Merck's IT Centre engaged with students to understand their expectations from their future workforce. The event started with a panel discussion 'Hear Me Out' followed by a visit to industry-sponsored labs which provided in-depth understanding on students practical, relevant, and hands-on learning experiences that align with industry needs, and concluded with 'Chai Pe Charcha'. Issues such as diversity, inclusion and equity at the workplace along with a cohesive society were some of the topics that were discussed.

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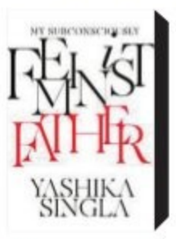


My Subconsciously Feminist Father

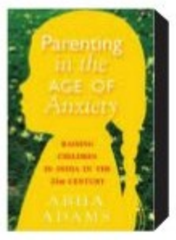
by Yashika Singla

It imagines a world where parents, especially fathers, yearn for and attempt to raise feminist sons.

Qaidi: Commander Karan Saxena Series

by Amit Khan

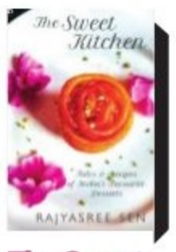
A spy thriller story revolving around Agent Karan Saxena who is on a secret mission to Beijing to rescue an Indian scientist who joined the Chinese government out of greed.



Parenting in the Age of Anxiety

by Abha Adams

The book takes a deep look at the most important issues troubling children and parents today and offers practical and compassionate advice on how these should be dealt with.



The Sweet Kitchen

by Rajyasree Sen

Weaving together stories, historical records, and recipes, the book takes a fascinating look at the desserts we have eaten for countless Diwali, Christmas, Eid, and Navroz celebrations through the centuries.

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Jolly Feast

Savour authentic Asian dishes from various cuisines, including Malaysian, Singaporean, Thai and many more.

WHERE: Courtyard by Marriott, Marathahalli
WHEN: March 28, 7pm
DETAILS: 080-61226777

Mingle Together

A networking evening for founders and business owners that facilitates making one-to-one connections with others in the community

WHERE: Ciciana, HSR Layout
WHEN: March 30, 6pm
DETAILS: allevents.in

Weekend Adventure

Witness the jaw dropping scenery of Kodagu, featuring innumerable coffee plantations, water falls, lush valleys and paddy fields.

WHERE: Meet up at Karachi Bakery, Indiranagar
WHEN: March 31, 10pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Needle Art

Learn body piercing at this workshop led by Srinath and Maxy and connect with others who share the same passion in a safe and hygienic environment.

WHERE: Trippink Tattoo Studio, Koramangala
WHEN: March 28, 12pm
DETAILS: mello.fun

Dramatic Hour

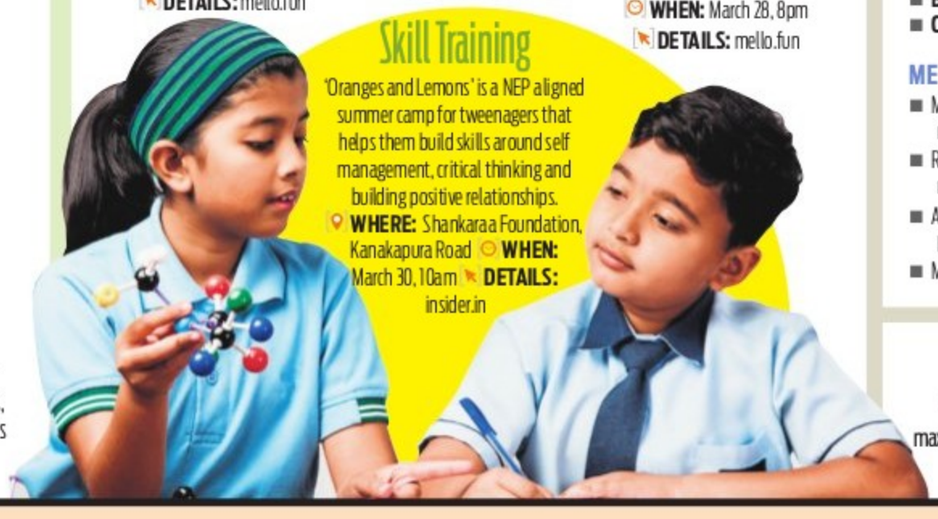
Wedding Ring is a rom-com Kannada play written by Abhishek Iyengar and directed by Archana Shyam.

WHERE: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar
WHEN: March 29, 7.30pm
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Pump It Up

Trivia night is an opportunity to meet new people and also a time for introspection. You can go in teams of six or less to participate in the pub quiz. Winners will be rewarded with amazing awards.

WHERE: Sly Granny, Indiranagar
WHEN: March 28, 8pm
DETAILS: mello.fun



Skill Training

'Oranges and Lemons' is a NEP aligned summer camp for tweenagers that helps them build skills around self management, critical thinking and building positive relationships.

WHERE: Shankaraa Foundation, Kanakapura Road **WHEN:** March 30, 10am **DETAILS:** insider.in

WEEKEND VEGAN TREAT

All roads led to the Namu Recommends Vegan Market at the Bangalore International Centre which was abuzz with activity over the weekend | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

QUICK FIX

MICROWAVE BESAN LADOO

Contributed by **Shweta Maheshwari**, Gondia

INGREDIENTS

- **Besan/ chickpea flour:** 1 cup
- **Ghee:** 6 tbsp
- **Cardamom powder:** 1/4 tsp
- **Powdered sugar:** 3/4 cup

METHOD

- Mix the besan and ghee in a microwave safe bowl. For 3 minutes, microwave on high 800 W, stirring every minute.
- Reduce the power to 50% and microwave for an additional 2-3 minutes, stirring every minute.
- After it has cooled, combine the cardamom powder and sugar powder with your hands.
- Make a ball out of a tiny amount of the mixture with your hands.

What's cooking in your kitchen?

We are hungry for recipes with minimum ingredients and maximum flavours. Share your quick-fix with us, along with step-by-step photos, at bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com

FIT BIT

SUPTA MATSYENDRASANA I

(SUPINE SPINAL TWIST POSE I)

This is a beginner-level, grounding pose as it calms the body and mind. A moderate hip opener, and strengthens the lower back. It's effective to treat back pain and digestion-related ailments. Can be a part of night yoga to treat sleeping disorders.

STEPS

- Start in Supta Tadasana, ensuring the spine, head, and shoulders are aligned.
- Inhale, bring the left leg towards the chest with the knees bent and hold it for a couple of breaths.
- Exhale, bring the left leg to the right side of the body, twisting at the hips, and simultaneously align your arms away from each other with shoulder blades firmly on the mat.
- Breathe calmly and gently bring the left knee towards the mat with the help of the right palm.
- With every exhale, slowly align your left leg towards the right side of the mat.
- Stay here and breathe rhythmically, be aware of the stretching of the hips and the lower back. Gaze towards the left with the head turned.
- Keep the right leg straight and alert.
- Stay in the pose for 5-6 breaths and then release. Repeat on the other side.
- After practicing both the sides, finally relax in Savasana.

BENEFITS

- Enhances metabolism, and a detoxifying process that rejuvenates the body.
- This eliminates imbalances.
- Activates the Jatharagni (metabolic fire) in the body.
- Good for spinal toning, calming the nervous system. Releases muscular stress and accumulated tensions.
- Effective for digestive system. Boosts energy.
- Brings fresh blood to lower abdomen parts.
- Helps reproduction, removing any imbalance in the reproductive system.
- Removes the pelvic and lower back stiffness.
- Tones genitals. Benefits the urogenital system and controls urinary incontinence.
- Treats flatulence, constipation, infertility, impotence and diabetes.
- Endocrine glands and reproductive system get good blood circulation.
- Treats Polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS).
- Reduces menstrual pains and alleviates menopausal and andropause symptoms.

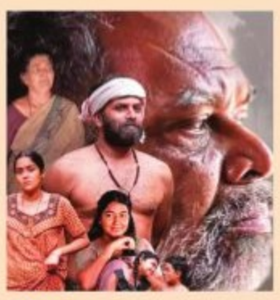
LIMITATIONS

Those who have injuries, hernia, piles, weak body & core, dislocation in the intestines, with slip disc, cervical spondylitis, or severe spinal ailments like scoliosis or kyphosis, undergone surgeries, women who have given birth through C-section, during menstruation, and pregnant women, should avoid this.

By N Elumalai, PhD scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

NOW STREAMING

REGIONAL



APPAN (Malayalam)

A cruel womaniser, who cheated death and has been bedridden for ages, harasses his wife and son out of spite. As his family waits for him to die, the villagers form a mob demanding to kill him because of his actions.

Cast: Sunny Wayne, Alencier Ley Lopez
Watch on: SonyLIV

KADUVA (Malayalam)

An intense rivalry with IG Joseph lands Kaduva in jail. But when he gets released, the battle for supremacy continues, wherein losing is not an option.

Cast: Prithviraj Sukumaran, Samyuktha Menon
Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

GOL GAPPE (Punjabi)

Three friends running a fast food joint receive a ransom call from the dreaded don of Punjab, due to a cross connection. What happens when they decide to pose as the don and ask for a double ransom?

Cast: Binnu Dhillon, Rajat Bedi, Navneet Kaur Dhillon
Watch on: ZEE5

VEDHA (Kannada)

A once peaceful man, Vedha, goes on a revenge killing spree with his daughter, Kanaka, after she gets released from prison. A daunting inspector Ramaa tries to stop the duo, only to be outrun by them.

Cast: Ganavi Laxman, Shiva Rajkumar
Watch On: ZEE5

KAKABABUR PROTYABORTON (Bengali)

To unwind from his busy routine, a man embarks on an adventure trip with his nephew. Soon, they get caught in a web of mysteries involving missing tourists.

Cast: Prosenjit Chatterjee, Aryan Bhoumik
Watch on: Disney+Hotstar

All the streaming apps can be accessed on smartphones and smart TVs with Internet connection.

BHONSLE (Hindi)

Bhonsle is a terminally-ill Maharashtrian cop who has retired against his will. He happens to befriend a 23-year-old young North Indian girl and her little brother. But when scheming, local politicians incite violence against North Indian migrants, Bhonsle decides to fight back and take a stand for his friends.

Cast: Manoj Bajpayee, Santosh Juvekar
Watch on: SonyLIV

SALAAM VENKY (Hindi)

Venky suffers from a rare type of muscular dystrophy and wants to donate his organs. With his mother's support, he petitions for legalising euthanasia. Will his wish be granted in the court of law?

Cast: Kajol, Vishal Jethwa
Watch on: ZEE5

FOREIGN

SAYEN (English)

In the forests of southern Chile, a young Mapuche woman, Sayen, sets out to hunt down the mercenaries who murdered her grandmother. Utilising her training, she is able to survive and turn the tables on these interlopers.

Cast: Rallen Montenegro, Arón Piper
Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

DIE HART (English)

Kevin Hart – playing a version of himself – is on a death-defying quest to become an action star. And with a little help from John Travolta, Nathalie Emmanuel, and Josh Hartnett, he just might pull it off.

Cast: Kevin Hart, John Travolta, Nathalie Emmanuel
Watch on: Amazon Prime Video

CHAGUO (African)

A tense election campaign between rival tribes threatens the relationship and lives of a young couple from opposing sides of the political divide.

Cast: Nyokabi Macharia, Nick Kwach, Brian Ogola
Watch on: Netflix

NOISE (Belgian)

After moving his family into his childhood home, a man's investigation into a local factory accident connected to his father unveils dark family secrets.

Cast: Ward Kerremans, Sallie Harmsen, Johan Leysen
Watch on: Netflix

SUBSCRIPTION

SonyLIV:	₹299 per month
Zee5:	₹399 for 3 months
Disney+Hotstar:	₹199 for 3 months
Netflix:	₹149 per month

GOING BEYOND *KANTARA*

CE speaks to veterans and researchers on the recent debate over taking Theyyam out of the ritualistic realm

Kandanar Kelan Theyyam

Pottan Theyyam

PICTURE COURTESY: JAYAN MANGAD

ARYA U R

Vishnumoorthy Theyyam

OVER the last week, there have been several online discussions on Theyyam — the ancient ritual dance act in which mere mortals go into a trance, transform into gods and goddesses. What triggered debates were posts on "*Kantara* Theyyam" being performed as part of the Attukal Pongala festival in Thiruvananthapuram. It was, indeed, a spectacular visual treat. And people thronged the Devi temple premises to see a group of artistes from Kozhikode showcase versions of Panchuruli, Pottan, and Rakthachamundi Theyyams.

However, many netizens pointed out that the 'performance' at Attukal was not the authentic Panchuruli Theyyam, which was popularised by the superhit film *Kantara*. "Please understand that whatever was arranged at Attukal Pongala was not Theyyam at all in the first place," wrote one on Twitter. "The entire event was a mockery of the rituals."

The same sentiment was echoed by many cultural enthusiasts, especially from the Malabar region. They also came down heavily on the trend of holding 'Theyyam performances' at social events, including campus get-togethers.

Theyyams are venerated, and many have familial bonds with them. Believers and veterans do not usually take kindly to commercialising or misrepresenting them. Last year, for instance, there was a furore with the Vaniya Samudaya Samithi censuring the use of Muchilot Bhagavathy's Theyyam kolam for promoting the CPM's 23rd party congress in Kannur.

Veteran Theyyam performer or 'koladhari' Narayanan Peruvannan, 67, says irreverence to the sacred ritual art hurts him. "I felt sad after watching the video of the so-called *Kantara*-style Panchuruli Theyyam at Attukal Temple. It was not genuine; it was a mockery of Theyyam by calling it Panchuruli," he adds. "There was not even a speck of authenticity."

Narayanan, who guided the Theyyam segments in the Suresh Gopi film *Kaliyattam*, stresses that Theyyam is not a mere art form, and should not be performed for entertainment or monetary gains. "There was a time when we received just five paise for a Theyyam ritual," he recalls. "In the past, political parties and cultural organisations have offered me big money for dressing up as Theyyam and participating in events. But I always declined such offers, bearing in my mind the teachings of my forefathers."

He goes on to allege that there are "some frauds" who don Theyyam costumes and perform at events "after watching a few videos". "This can mislead people who are not aware of Theyyams, especially outside north Kerala," adds Narayanan, who retired as a driver from Vellayani Agriculture College.

Kantara effect

Writer and independent filmmaker Jayan Mangad, who has curated a documentary series on over 100 Theyyams of the state, is of the opinion that the ritual art forms should be given more venues and not be restricted to worship. He highlights plans for Theyyam performances at the launch of the current edition of the Kochi-Muziris Biennale as a positive example. The event, however, was cancelled.

"The film *Kantara*, which showcased Tulu Theyyam, has helped boost the popularity of the ritual art," says Jayan, who hails from Kasaragod. "Theyyam was taken outside the territory of rituals and customs for the first time when it was presented at the launch of the Asian Games in the 1980s. Since then, there have been uproars over taking Theyyam out of the ritual space. I, however, believe it has to be taken to other venues, maintaining the purity and original structure."

A Theyyam performance by Kozhikode Theyyatta Kala Samiti as part of Attukal Pongala festival in Thiruvananthapuram | VINCENT PULICKAL

Jayan adds that taking Theyyam beyond the ritual form would provide better income to artists from the SC/ST communities, who are the custodians of the tradition.

Researcher and former Theyyam artist YV Kannan, of Kannur, agrees. "I am against the use of Theyyam or its imagery for decorative purposes at political or cultural events," he says. "But there are Theyyams like Muthappan, Kathivanoor Veeran, Vishnumoorthi, etc., that are performed on paddy fields or at ancestral houses. So, why not perform at other venues with customary arrangements?"

Narayanan, too, welcomes the growing popularity of Theyyam. "But it should not be at the cost of diluting tradition," he says. "Films like *Kantara* have helped popularise the ritual. But, the tendency to use Theyyam for entertainment, political or tourism purposes is worrisome. That will be an injustice to our ancestors."

Eroding tradition

Taliparamba-based Theyyam artist Preman Premajan, 53, also raises concerns over Theyyam losing its soul essence. "Only 10 per cent of the present generation of 'koladharis' are determined to take the pains and master Theyyam in its entirety — from face painting to the percussion," he says.

"They focus just on the vibrant appearance. They are ready to perform in any manner if there is monetary gain. This pains seniors like us."

Preman cites the case of *thottampaattu*, the hymns associated with Theyyam. "We learnt it from our elders, with a disciplined practice of three to four hours a day. There should be a holistic approach; it is vital while transforming into a Theyyam. Not many young *koladharikals* are interested in learning *thottampaattu* by heart."

A KSRTC bus conductor and Theyyam artist Rajan Panicker of Neeleshwaram says one becomes a true Theyyam performer after succeeding in the acharapeduthal or 'grilling' custom. "Life and nature-related questions are asked. It used to be a yardstick to measure if one is qualified to become a 'talking God', and pacify and motivate devotees," he says.

"The current generation lacks knowledge. In the next five years, I think we will have recorded *thottampattu* tracks. Theyyam is a mode to give positive energy to those in angst, and also to unify and guide people. I hope it does not end up as something for entertainment and money-making."

Uchitta Theyyam

THE PANCHURULI TALES

Writer and filmmaker Jayan Mangad says the Panchuruli Theyyam portrayed in the film *Kantara* is of Tulu origin and performed by a specific tribal community. "These tribals, who dwelled in the forest, were scared of boars which destroyed their crops and fodders. So, they started to pray for some means to end their suffering. Later, this was entrenched in local folklore," he adds. Researcher and former Theyyam artist YV Kannan, of Kannur, shares a divine story of Panchuruli, considered a form of Goddess Kali. "In Tulu, it is Panchi Uru Kali. Later, it became Panchuruli. *Panch* in Tulu means pig. According to legend, it was Goddess Varahi who came to save the people from a demon. Many communities in Kerala and Karnataka perform Panchuruli Theyyam," he says.

Vasoorimala Theyyam

DID YOU KNOW?

- Theyyam is a ritualistic dance form practised in north Kerala and some parts of Karnataka.
- A rich blend of art, culture and worship, it is often accompanied by the invocative ballad, *Thottampattu*.
- It is believed that during the ritual, the performer is possessed by divine spirits.
- Theyyam is mainly performed by male artistes, except for Devakoothu Theyyam, which is performed only in the Thekkumbad Kulom temple.
- There are over 400 forms of Theyyam. Every genre of Theyyam has its own specific face paintings or *mukhamezhuthu* styles. The dance ritual is practised by specific castes and tribes and often in temples or sacred groves.

Gulikan Theyyam

Kurathi Theyyam

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **ASHWINI BALASUBRAMANYAM,** R/at No.16 Krishnamurthy Layout, Sanjay Nagar, Bengaluru -560094, have changed my minor son's name from **MIHIR SRIVATSAN** to **MIHIR SRIVATSAN SRINIVASAN,** vide affidavit dt:04.02.2023 before Notary **K.V. Mani,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **POORNIMA RAVI,** W/o Ravi Ramarao, R/at House No. 106, AECS Layout, HAL Colony 1st Stage, Near RMV Hospital, Sanjaynagar, R.M.V. Extension II Stage, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560094, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **POORNIMA RAO .S.N** to **POORNIMA RAVI,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **POORNIMA RAVI** only, vide affidavit dated 25-03-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **M. RAJENDRA** at Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **LEKHANA .S,** aged about 21 years, D/o Sheshadri, R/at #49, Bannerghatta Road, Near Meenakshi Temple, Hulimavu, Bengaluru-560076, Karnataka State, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **LEKHANA** to **LEKHANA .S,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **LEKHANA .S** only, vide affidavit dated 24-03-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B.V. NAGABHUSHANA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RAJESH ANANTHAKRISHNA, Aged 48 years, Son of Sri. Ananthakrishna Upadhya, R/o Flat No.F#4, V.R. Terrace, 7th Main, 7th Cross, Near Siddivinayaka Temple, Nobonagar, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560076, declare that I have changed the name of my Minor Daughter from DHANVI (Old Name) to DHANVI UPADHYA (New Name), henceforth my Daughter shall be known and called as DHANVI UPADHYA (New Name) only for all purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 25/03/2023 before Notary RAMESH .J. SOLANKI, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **V. Kingslee Mariya Paulina** Son of **No: JC-307923-M, Ex-Subedar, S Vincent Paul**, residing at 164/4, 2nd Cross, 4th Block, Ramachandrapura, Manjunath Tent, Jalahalli, Bangalore-560013 have changed his name from **Ingslee Maria Paulina** to **V. Kingslee Mariya Paulina** vide affidavit dated 24/03/2023 sworn before Notary K C Pemmaiah, Bangalore-560097

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAVIKUMAR NICHENAMETLA** Resident of Flat No.106, Viva Block, SJR Verity Apartments, Hosa Road, Kasavanahalli, Off Sarjapur Road, Bengaluru - 560035, Karnataka, that I have changed my son's name from **DATTA VENKATA SILESH KRISHNA NICHENAMETLA** to **SAILESH NICHENAMETLA,** vide affidavit dated 25.03.2023, before notary, B.M. CHANDRASHEKAR, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I **Mrs. KAVITHA VANI. C,** W/o Late M. Soundar, aged about 60 years, R/at No. 416, 1st stage, 5th block 5th main, 2nd Cross, HBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore, do hereby declare that my name in all educational certificates of my son - **PRAVEEN BABU S** are wrongly typed due to clerical mistake as **KAVITHA** instead of **KAVITHA VANI .C.** Vide affidavit dated 21-03-2023 sworn before Notary public Mr. Lakshminarayana Reg No.20363 at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SANDEEP** S/o **Kushala Shetty,** Residing at H-No-1-181 Shabari House, Ammunje, Thenkabettu Post, Uppor Village, Udupi- 576105 (Camp at Bengaluru) have changed my name to **SANDEEP KUSHAL SHETTY** vide affidavit dated: 25/3/2023 Before Notary **H.S. Sakalesh Aradhya** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RICHA JAIN,** W/o Yogesh L. Jain, r/at No. 16, 3rd Floor, A Krishna Sing Lane, Opp. to Sitaram Mandir, Ulsoorpet, Bangalore-560 002, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **RICHA MANOJ PORWAL** to **RICHA JAIN,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **RICHA JAIN** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 24th March 2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **P.N. Nagesha** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SUMA SIDDALINGAPPA,** W/o Siddalingappa, R/at #99/12, Bull Temple Road, Next to Ramakrishna Ashram, Bengaluru-560019, Karnataka State, do hereby declare that I have changed my minor son's name from **NAYANISHA** to **NAYANISHA SIDDALINGAPPA,** henceforth he shall be known and called as **NAYANISHA SIDDALINGAPPA** only, vide affidavit dated 25-03-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **GANGARAJU .B.N** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MAGI, & also called Thilaka,** W/o Prabhakar D, age 55 years, R/at No.288-A, 4th B Cross, K.S.Garden, Wilson Garden, Bangalore-27. My Voter ID, Aadhar Card, Pan Card, Ration Card & other documents entered my name as **"MAGI"**, In my Employment Records Mentioned as **"Thilaka"** Vide E.I.D.N.SAP ID No.100169. I wanted to change my name in Employment record as **"MAGI"** Instead of **"THILAKA"** Vide affidavit dated: **25-03-2023** Notary before **M.Rajendra,** advocate & Notary at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **V. Santrino Mariya Paulina** daughter of **No: JC-307923-M, Ex-Subedar, S Vincent Paul**, residing at 164, 2nd Cross, 4th Block Byrappa Garden, Ramachandrapura, Doddabommasandra Bangalore - 560013, have changed her name from **Santrina Maria Paulina** to **V. Santrino Mariya Paulina,** vide affidavit dated 24/03/2023, sworn before Notary K C Pemmaiah, Bangalore-560097

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mahesh B. S/o Basavaraju R/a #101/A, Geeravani Nilaya, 2nd main, 2nd cross, Hanumakka Hanumanthappa Layout, Ulal main road, near Vidhya Nikethan School, Bangalore South, Mallathahalli, Bengaluru- 560056 have changed my minor daughter name from ASHVIKA SUMANA GOWDA to AHANA M PRANAMYA (DOB 25.09.2015) vide affidavit dated 17.03.2023 before notary D.S. Chandrakanth, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Mrs. M.N. USHA @ NALINA,** Aged about 46 years, D/o. M. Narayanappa, W/o. Mr. Chandrashekar .M, residing at No. 001, 1st Floor, Block-3, Vishwesha Apartment, Muniswamappa Garden, Chunchghatta, Bangalore - 560 062, Karnataka, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **M N USHA** to **NALINA.** I hereby declare that **M N USHA** and **NALINA** both names are one and the same person which represents me only. Vide affidavit dated 24.3.2023 sworn to before Ambreshappa, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VANITHA MARATHAHALLI KRISHNAREDDY,** R/at No.19, Garden Street, Ramamurthy Nagar, Dooravai Nagar Post, Bengaluru- 560016, have changed my name to **VANITHAVATHY MARATHAHALLI KRISHNAREDDY** vide affidavit dated: 25/3/2023 Before Notary **Sivakumara. M.N** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **AFZAL PASHA,** aged about 67 years, S/o Mohamed Akber, R/at #7, R. Street, Shanthi Nagar, Wilson Garden Post, Bangalore-560 027, Karnataka, India do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **AFZAL PASHA ABDUL KHADER** to **AFZAL PASHA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **AFZAL PASHA** only for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 25th March 2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **ARAVIND PATIL G.G.** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **No. 1381814L,** Rank: Ex. Naik, Name: **M KUMERESAN,** S/o Late Muniswamy, R/at No. 37, Anand Nivas, 4th Cross, PNS Layout, 80 Feet Road, Subbannapalya, Bengaluru-560033, have changed my name from **M KUMERESAN** to **M KUMARESAN,** vide affidavit dated 25-03-2023, before Notary **N. KANCHIVARADARAJU,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KAVANA ACHARYA,** W/o K. Abhiram Acharya, aged about 29 years, R/at 614, 13th Cross, 14th Main, JP Nagar, 2nd Phase, Bangalore - 560078. I have changed my name form **"KAVANA S. BHAT"**, to **"KAVANA ACHARYA,"** Vide affidavit dated: **24-02-2023** Notary before **T.R. Raghavendra Rao,** advocate & Notary at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **V. Vinithalin Mariya Paulina** daughter of **No: JC-307923-M, Ex-Subedar, S Vincent Paul**, residing at No: 13, 2nd Main, 3rd Cross Muneshwara Swamy Layout, Doddabommasandra, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore - 560097, have changed her name From **Vinithalin Maria Paulina** to **V. Vinithalin Mariya Paulina,** vide affidavit dated 24/03/2023 sworn before Notary K C Pemmaiah, Bangalore-560097

CHANGE OF NAME
I, N SANTA CRUZ PETER LEON S/o. Gargory Nazaryen Leon R/a #360/1, Stanlishlee Road, Malik Bazar, 4th Square, Austin Town, Viveknagar, Bangalore- 560047 declare that NAZAREYN SANTHER CRUZ PETER LEON and N SANTA CRUZ PETER LEON is one and the same person. Henceforth I known as N SANTA CRUZ PETER LEON vide affidavit dated 25.03.2023 before notary AR Muneer Ahamed, Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHAHIDA PARVEEN,** W/o. Najmul Islam, aged about 56 years, R/at Flat No. 202, Iqbal Plaza, Corporation No. 36/16, Millers Road, Benson Town, Bangalore hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SHAHIDA NAJAM** to **SHAHIDA PARVEEN.** Henceforth I shall be called and referred as **SHAHIDA PARVEEN** vide Affidavit dated 21-3-2023 sworn before Notary Public Mr. Lakshminarayana. Reg. No. 20363 at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **AMRAMMA** (OLD NAME), W/o Patil Mohan Gowd, Permanent R/of No. 469, 3rd Cross, Near Shirdi Sai Mandir, H.M.T. Layout, Anandnagar, Bengaluru-560024, have changed my Old Name **"AMRAMMA"** to New Name **"PUSHPA PATIL"**, vide affidavit dated 24-03-2023, before the Notary **SIVAKUMARA .M.N,** Mayo Hall Court, Bengaluru for all Official and Legal Purposes.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SYED MANSOOR ALI,** Father of Minor Son, **'SYED RAEES'** (New name) R/at No. 18, 1st Floor, 7th Main, Near GEMS School, K.H.M Block, Ganganagar, R.T. Nagar, Bengaluru-560032, have changed my son's previous name **"SYED SAAD ALI"** to New Name **"SYED RAEES"**, vide affidavit dated 25-03-2023, before the Notary **SIVAKUMARA .M.N,** Mayo Hall Court, Bengaluru, for all official and legal purposes, Particularly for Education and Passport Purpose.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) UNNI.P.V,** residing at No. 4/2, ITC Road, 3rd Cross, Ramasapalya, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560033, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) UNNI.P.V** to **(NEW NAME) UNNI KRISHNAN P.V.** vide affidavit Dated 25/03/2023 sworn before Notary K.P.Sumangala, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RUTHVI SALANKE L** D/o. Lokesh Rao S,. Aged about 36 years, Residing at No-1085. Tower 1 Prestige Bagamane Temple Bells, Javarana Doddi, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru-98. do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **BHAVYA LOKESH RAO TO RUTHVI SALANKE L.** vide affidavit dated 02/03/2023 sworn before advocate & Notary S.R. ThulasiKrishna, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Anthony Ammal P** & 06-05-1974, Wife of **No: JC-307923-M, Ex-Subedar, S Vincent Paul**, residing at No: 26, 2nd Main, 2nd Cross, Doddabommasandra Near R R School, Vidyaranyapura Bangalore - 560097, have changed her name & DOB from **Anthonyammal** & **03-05-1973** to **Anthony Ammal P** & **06-05-1974,** vide affidavit dated 24/03/2023 sworn before VI Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **Smt. Yashodha S,** W/o. Late Sanjeeva B, Age 52 years, R/o # 700, 2nd Cross, TR Nagar, Ashoknagar, Banashankari Post, Bangalore - 560 050, do hereby declare that, My Husband name **Sanjeeva B** but in generally called him in the names of **Sanjeeva B, Sanjeeva, D Sanjeeva, Sanjeev Kumar, D Sanjeevaiah, Sanjiva B, B Sanjeev kumar** and **Sanjeev Poojari.** These are all names called only one person **Sanjeeva B.** My deceased husband Aadhaar No. 606054067630 and PAN No. JKDPS7345G. Vide affidavit dated 24.3.2023 sworn to before G. Dayananda, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Rakesh.C, S/o. T.Chandrashekar Reddy, aged about 34 Years, residing at No. 841, 3rd Street, Ferns Paradise, Doddanekundi, Bangalore 560 037,** do hereby declare that I have changed my minor son's name from **VIREN ADARSH REDDY to GAURAV R. REDDY,** vide affidavit dated 24/03/2023, sworn to before H.G.Venkataramu, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt of India, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHARATH SAMBAMURTHY,** R/of No. 721, 10th Main, 2nd Stage, Nagarabhavi, Vinayaka Layout, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560072, do herebydeclare that I have changed my name from **SHARATH MOTAGANAHALLY SAMBAMURTHY** to **SHARATH SAMBAMURTHY,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SHARATH SAMBAMURTHY** only, vide affidavit dated 23-05-2023, sworn before Advocate and Notary **K.C. SHASHIKALA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SUSHMITHA KASHIMALLA,** aged about 29 years, D/o Veera Brahma Kashimalla, R/at #36, 2nd Cross, Anandapuram, Jeevan Beema Nagar, New Tippasandra Post, Bengaluru-560075, have changed my name to **SUSHMITHA SIMON KADIMELLA,** vide affidavit dated 24-03-2023 before Notary **S. SAMUEL SOLOMON,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **(OLD NAME) R.SUKANIYA,** W/o. Vasanth.V, residing at No. 25, Gokulam, 3rd Cross, Muniyappa Layout, Murugeshpalya, Bangalore -560017, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) R.SUKANIYA** to **(NEW NAME) R.SUKANYA** vide affidavit Dated 23/03/2023 sworn before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **V. Princy Mariya Paulina** Daughter of **No: JC-307923-M, Ex-Subedar, S Vincent Paul** residing at 164, 2nd Cross, 4th Block, Byrappa Garden Ramachandrapura, Bangalore - 560013, have changed her name from **Princey Maria Paulina** to **V. Princy Mariya Paulina,** vide affidavit dated 24/03/2023, sworn before Notary K C Pemmaiah, Bangalore-560097

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **JOYCE AZIZ,** D/o **Antony Joseph Pereira,** R/o Villa No.10, Green Apple Villas Thirumagondanahalli Village Neraluru Post, Attibele Hobli Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 562107, have permanently changed my name as **JOYCE PEREIRA,** vide affidavit dated 27/03/2023, sworn before notary L.Puttaraju, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GLADY PRIYA SAMUEL,** D/o. Samuel Sampath, Aged about 29 years, Residing at No. 53, 7th 'A' Main, T.C. Palya Main Road, Hoysalanagara, Rammurthy Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 016, Karnataka, India, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **GLADY MARCELL CHRIST, S.G. VASANTHA PRIYA @ S. GLADY VASANTHA PRIYA, GLADY SAMUEL SAMPATH** and **GLADY .S** to **GLADY PRIYA SAMUEL** vide affidavit dated 25.3.2023 sworn to before V. Rangaramu, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT
I, Smt. C. Jayamary, aged 55 years, W/o. S.A. Venkatesh Murthy, residing at No. 38/Q (206), R.K. Layout, K.G. Nagar, Bangalore - 560 019, have declared that the names **Jaya, C. Jaya, C. Jayamary, Chinnappa Jayamary, Jayamary Chinnappa** belongs to me only, and both names belongs to one and the same person. vide affidavit dated 23/03/2023 sworn to before Advocate & notary L. Shankaranarayana, Bangalore.

RAJ B SHETTY'S *TOBY* TO BE MADE ON A BIG CANVAS

A SHARADHAA

WE had earlier reported about Raj B Shetty headlining a revenge drama, which will be directed by his erstwhile associate Basil Alchakkal. Titled *Toby,* the film has been written by Raj, who is also playing the titular role.

The latest is that the makers have roped in Chaithra Achar (*Sapta Sagaradaache Ello*) and Samyukta Hornad (*Love Birds*) as the leads. Interestingly, Raj, who is known for working on films with budget constraints, is set to work in a film on a big canvas. Our source informed us that the budget of Toby's climatic stretch is more than the investment of *Ondu Motteya Kathe* and *Garuda Gamana Vrishnaba Vahana combined.*

Raj, who is known to choreograph stunts for his projects, this time has roped in a stunt master to handle the fight sequences. "The team put in efforts to elevate the film to the next level, and it will be a new experience for the audience," our source reveals.

Earlier, while announcing the film, Raj had posted a cryptic message on social media that read, 'When you hurt an artist, a poem comes.' So, it will be interesting to see if the story, penned by Raj, will have a personal element to it, or if *Toby* will be a fictional story.

Midhun Munkundan is the composer of *Toby,* which has cinematography by Praveen Shriyan.

Directed by debutant Basil Alchakkal, the shoot has been completed

Samyukta Hornad

Chaithra Achar

AN UPDATE OF RAJ B SHETTY'S OTHER PROJECTS

Raj B Shetty has completed his upcoming directorial (*Swathi Mutthina Male Haniye*), which is the maiden production of actor Ramya under Apple Box Studios banner. The film is currently in the post-production phase, and the filmmaker is simultaneously working on his first Malayalam film, Rudhiram, and is camped in Kerala till the first week of April. Raj is also part of music director Arjun Janya's debut directorial, *45*, which also stars Shivarajkumar and Upendra.

Soha, Nushrratt complete filming for *Chhorri 2*

CE FEATURES

ACTORS Soha Ali Khan and Nushrratt Bharuccha have completed filming for their upcoming horror sequel film directed by Vishal Furia. Taking to Instagram, Soha shared a video of the two jumping in happiness and hugging each other. She wrote, "2 chhoriis very happy to wrap *chhorii 2*." (sic)

According to the makers, *Chhorii 2* picks up Sakshi's (Nushrratt Bharuccha) story and will bring back 'some key characters as well as introduce new characters and monsters'. Vishal, who helmed the 2021 remake based on his own Marathi film *Lapachhapi,* returns to directing duties in the sequel.

Earlier, speaking about *Chhorii 2*, Soha said, "The role that I play in *Chhorii 2* is truly unique and a significant departure from the work I have previously been a part of. I really enjoyed the first edition of Chhorii, and am excited to up the horror quotient in this edition." Nushrratt added, "I am extremely excited and kicked to reprise the role of Sakshi and go back to the world of *Chhorii*. I cannot wait for the audiences to experience what we have in store for them, this time. It's going to be bigger and better! Chhorii 2 is presented by T-Series, Abundantia Entertainment and Psych.

Veerappan's daughter Vijayalakshmi enters tinsel town with *Maaveeran Pillai*

VIJAYALAKSHMI Veerappan, the daughter of late forest brigand Veerappan, makes her film debut with *Maaveeran Pillai*, which is made in Tamil and will be dubbed in Kannada. The makers, who are looking for an April release, recently had an audio launch in the presence of Veerappan's wife, Muthulakshmi, and other noted dignitaries from the film industry.

According to the director and producer KNR Raja, Vijayalakshmi was interested in acting since childhood, and Maaveeran Pillai was a dream realised. The film sheds light on the effects of alcoholism and its impact on families. Raja reveals that the universality of the theme made him release the film in two languages.

Maaveeran Pillai, which also stars Radha Ravi and Raja, has Manjunath handling the cinematography, background score by Prem, and the song composition by Ravivarma.

Directed and produced by KNR Raja, the makers are planning to release the film in Kannada this April

Stills from the film

SIGNAL MAN - 1971 is an inspirational story of sacrifice and reconciliation: K Shivarudraiah

A still from the film

> Signal Man - 1971 sheds light on coming to terms with a lonely life and how a troubled past gets compounded with the mounting external pressure of the war
>
> Shivarudraiah, director

CE FEATURES

STATE award-winning director and wildlife photographer K Shivarudraiah's next, *Signal Man -1971*, has been selected at the ongoing Bengaluru International Films Festival. Adapted from the 1866 story, *Signal-Man*, authored by Charles Dickens, the film stars Prakash Belawadi in a unique role. The film, written by Prakash, is set in 1971 and is about a photographer named Rajashekar, who is looking for a photo opportunity at a remote location of the Western Ghats, where he meets Balu, the Signal Man.

"*Signal Man -1971* sheds light on coming to terms with a lonely life and how a troubled past gets compounded with the mounting external pressure of the war," says K Shivarudraiah, adding, "The film is a story of inspiration, sacrifice, and reconciliation."

The film has Ouseppachan composing the music, Suresh Urs as editor, and cinematography by Shekar Chandru.

Signal Man - 1971, produced by Ganesh Prabhu, also stars Venkatesh Prasad, Dimpy Fadia, Malathesh, Gowri Prabhu, and Rajesh Nataranga in pivotal roles. "The film, which will be screened at BIFFES, will soon hit theatres too," signs off Shivarudraiah.

Priyanka Kumar to star opposite Shreyas Manju in upcoming romantic drama

CE FEATURES

THE makers of Shreyas Manju's upcoming college drama have roped in Priyanka Kumar as the female lead. This will mark the third film for the actor, who is awaiting the release of her first two films — Abishek Ambareesh's *Bad Manners*, directed by Suri, and director AP Arjun's *Addhuri Lover,* which stars Virat. and currently on floors.

Backed by R Santhosh Kumar, under the Ancient Movies banner, the project marks the directorial debut of Madhu Gowda Gangur.

The film is expected to go on floors this April, and are planning to shoot it in Bengaluru, Chickmagaluru, Kodagu, and Kerala.

With Arjun Janya scoring the music, the film will have Gagan Gowda handling the cinematography.

Meanwhile, Shreyas is also awaiting the release of VK Prakash's *Vishnu Priya*, which also stars Priya Prakash Varrier.

Directed by debutant Madhu Gowda Gangur, the project marks Priyanka's third film after *Bad Manners* and *Addhuri Lover*

Priyanka Kumar

Shreyas Manju